



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

September 18, 2018

MR. JOHN GREENEWALD JR.
SUITE 1203
27305 WEST LIVE OAK ROAD
CASTAIC, CA 91384

FOIPA Request No.: 1416259-000
Subject: Amtorg Trading Corporation

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

Records responsive to your request were previously processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Below you will find informational paragraphs relevant to your request. Please read each item carefully.

Enclosed are 261 pages of previously processed documents and a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions. This release is being provided to you at no charge.

Documents or information referred to other Government agencies were not included in this release.

Please be advised that additional records potentially responsive to your subject may exist. If this release of previously processed material does not satisfy your information needs for this request, you may request an additional search for records. Submit your request by mail or fax to – Work Process Unit, 170 Marcel Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, fax number (540) 868-4997. Please cite the FOIPA Request Number in your correspondence.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA online portal by creating an account on the following web site: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at 877-684-6448, or by emailing ogis@nara.gov. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hardy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David M. Hardy
Section Chief,
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

JOURNAL TO BE MADE AT ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT: New York, N.Y.	DATE WHEN MADE: June 6, 1924	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: June 6, 1924	REPORT MADE BY: Geo. J. Starr.
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TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

RE: AMTORG; New Russian Trade Agency in America.31080
m 6

FACTS DEVELOPED:

At New York, N.Y.

Agent this day interviewed [redacted] who

has always been willing to aid this Agent providing the fact that he furnishes information is treated confidentially. Among other things [redacted] stated that a new trading organization has been established at 136 Liberty Street, called AMTORG, which is the abbreviation of the Russian words for "American Trade", a corresponding English designation would be AMTRADE. This organization is formed from a consolidation of the Products Exchange Corporation and Arcos-America. The Chairman of the board of directors of this organization is I. HOORGIN. The President is named ZIV, who recently arrived here in company with CLIFFORD N. CARVER and HOORGIN. ISAAC SHERMAN of ARCOS is the Vice President. The incorporators are JOHANN OHSOL of the Products Corporation and SHERMAN and HOORGIN.

61-5381-1
 CONFIDENTIAL
 6/12/24

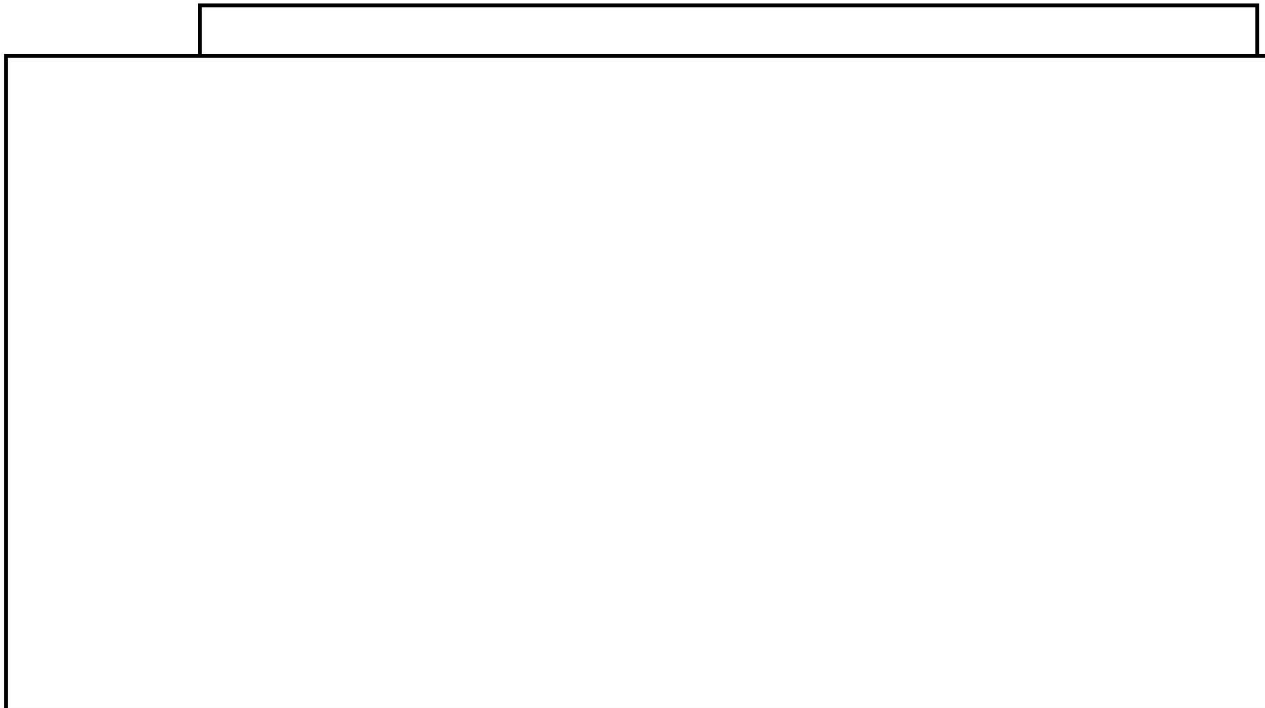
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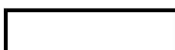
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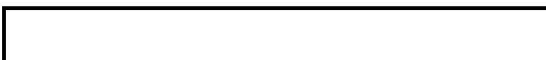
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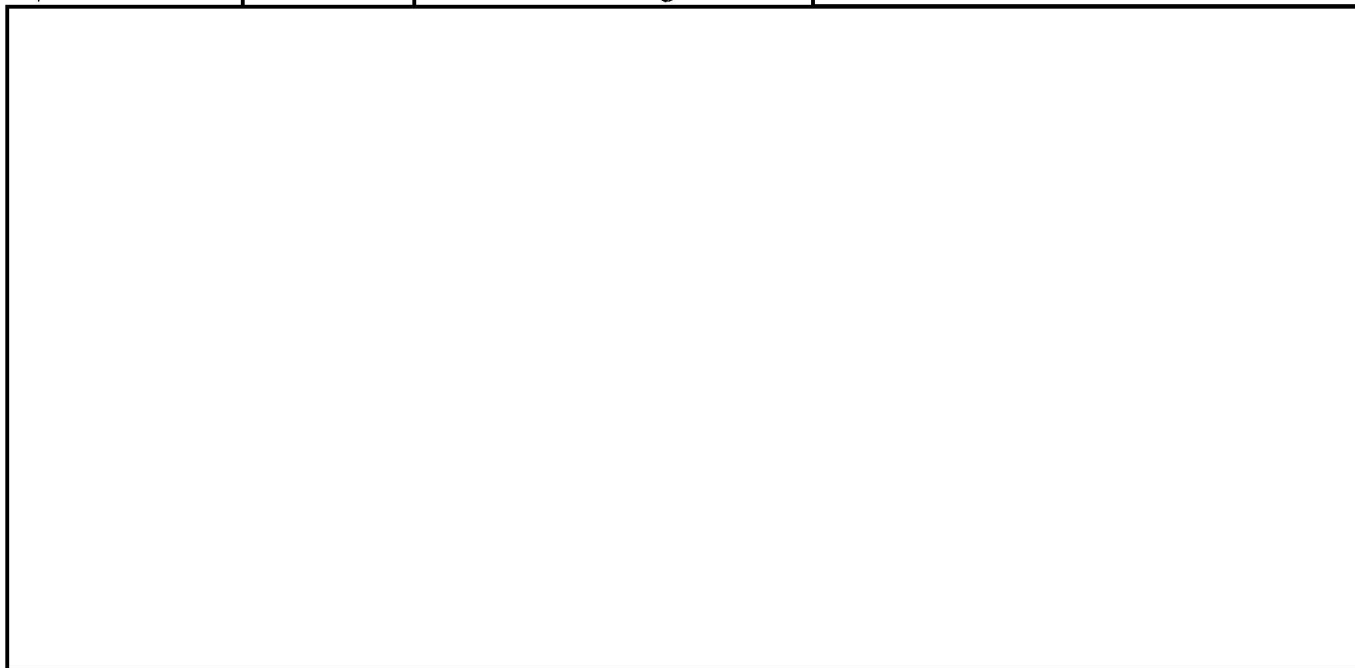
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also informed Agent that



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CONTINUED.

31076

TPB:JWM

~~61-538-2~~

AUG 6 - 1924

61-5381-3

August 2, 1924.

Lehman Brothers,
16-22 William Street,
New York City.

Gentlemen:-

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 22nd, in which you request information concerning the status and financial and moral responsibility of the Amtorg Trading Company and the All Russian Textile Syndicate, both having offices in New York City.

I regret to advise you that the Bureau is unable to furnish you any information along these lines, inasmuch as it is a well established policy of the Bureau to hold the information in its files as confidential and for official use only.

Very truly yours,

Acting Director.

RECORDED & INDEXED

MAILED

AUG 2

#

LEHMAN BROTHERS

16-22 WILLIAM STREET

31077

AUG 6 - 1924

NEW YORK July 22, 1924.

61-5381-3
61-5381-2

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 23 1924 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
HOOVER	FILE

8/2/24
The Secret Service,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We have in prospect the possibility of doing business with the following two companies, who we believe are representatives of the Soviet Government in this country:

✓
The Amtorg Trading Company (Mr. Hoorgin, President)
Liberty Street,
New York, N. Y.

All Russian Textile Syndicate (Mr. Gumberg, Secretary)
Equitable Trust Bldg.,
New York, N. Y.

Before entering into any kind of business relationship with the above mentioned, we should like to obtain from you any information you may be able to furnish us in regard to their status and financial and moral responsibility. We are anxious to ascertain whether they are duly accredited and responsible agents of the Soviet Government; whether the companies mentioned have always discharged their obligations in a satisfactory and businesslike manner; and whether the individuals named have creditable records. It would also be of interest to us to learn whether dealings with these organizations, or similar ones in this country or in England, have always proved satisfactory, and whether they enjoy the confidence of yourselves and the firms with whom they have previously done business.

We trust that you will be able to give us full and detailed information on the companies as well as the individuals mentioned above, so that we may be able to make a decision as to the advisability of entering into business relationships with them.

We assure you that any such information would be greatly appreciated by us.

Very truly yours,

William B. ...

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE
JUL 23 1924
DIVISION

RE/EE.

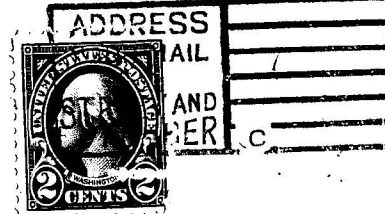
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LEHMAN BROS.

16-22 WILLIAM STREET

NEW YORK

31078



The Secret Service,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

JOURNAL TO BE MADE AT ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT: New York, N.Y.	DATE WHEN MADE: Jan. 29, 1925	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: Jan. 29, 1925	REPORT MADE BY: George J. Starr
TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE: RE: <u>AMTORG - Russian Trade Agency in America</u> 31071 Alleged Financing of Radical Propaganda			
FACTS DEVELOPED:			
<p>Synopsis:</p> <p>Major C.E. Russell. Consulting Criminal Engineer now investigating alleged fraudulent insurance claim filed by AMTORG states that he has info. that part of AMTORG proceeds are used for propaganda in this country.</p> <p>Details:</p> <p>Major Charles E. Russell recently communicated with the Agent in Charge of this office and asked to have an Agent call on him. In accordance with instructions this Agent interviewed Major Russell, who states that he is employed in making investigations for certain insurance companies in cases where it is alleged that there is some question as to the justice of claims filed. In the course of this work he was retained by an insurance company to examine a claim filed by AMTORG for a loss sustained thru the theft of about \$37,000 worth of furs which were in a storage house on 28th Street. Major Russell, from a study of the case came to the conclusion that it would be a physical impossibility for the theft to have occurred at the time and during the period</p>			
Approved and Forwarded:		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES FILE NO. <u>61-5381-5</u> BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: FILE FEB 13 1925 RECORDED & INDEXED JES:VD	
REFERENCE: #2	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Washington 3; New York 2;		

31072

named by AMTORG. Auditors who examined the records on behalf of the insurance company were inclined to question the validity of the valuation of \$37,000 placed on the stolen merchandise by AMTORG. Major Russell states that he has an informant who is in close touch with AMTORG, who states that part of this money, or rather part of the proceeds from the business done by AMTORG is used for propaganda purposes. He offered to secure thru the informant any information which the Bureau might desire regarding AMTORG. Agent informed him that while there was no action that could be taken on the matter at this time any information which he would furnish would be accepted, and if there was any special information desired by the Bureau, Agent would communicate with him.

Major Russell was located in room 436, 149 Broadway, this city, and has, after his name on the door, "C.C.E." He describes himself as a Consulting Criminal Engineer. He also endeavored to impress Agent with the importance of the confidential information which he had from time to time furnished the former and present Directors of this Bureau. There being no violation of Federal Law involved in this matter, the investigation is being marked closed. Any further developments on Russian radical activities will be covered in the routine reports on that subject.

CLOSED.

JOSEPH W. HARRIMAN
PRESIDENT
JOHN A. NOBLE
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
WILLIAM A. BURKE
COMPTROLLER
MARSHALL SHEPPEY
VICE PRESIDENT
FREDERICK PHILLIPS
VICE PRESIDENT
THOMAS B. CLARKE, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT
ORLANDO H. HARRIMAN
VICE PRESIDENT
CHARLES F. KOTH
VICE PRESIDENT
& MANAGER FOREIGN DEPARTMENT
M.S. BILLMIRE
VICE PRESIDENT

HARRIMAN NATIONAL BANK

FIFTH AVENUE 154TH STREET



OLIVER W. BIRCKHEAD
VICE PRESIDENT
H.B. KONDOR
CASHIER
MORTON W. BELL
TRUST OFFICER
WILLIAM B. SHEPPARD
ASSISTANT CASHIER
FREDERICK J. BEVERE
ASSISTANT CASHIER
FREDRICK KOHLENBERGER
ASSISTANT CASHIER & NIGHT MANAGER
T.O. MACHEL
ASSISTANT CASHIER
JAMES L. TURNER
ASSISTANT CASHIER
ALAN HARRIMAN
ASSISTANT CASHIER

CABLE: HARRIBANK

February 27th, 1925.

The Honorable,
The Attorney General of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

We are very anxious to obtain for a valued customer information concerning The Amtorg Trading Company, New York City, and have been informed that they are in some way representative of the Soviet Government of Russia or in some manner handle in this country large business transactions with the Russian authorities referred to.

We have been informed with respect to this company's banks of deposit, but shall appreciate if you will write us whether this company is officially known to your Department and, if so, just what their status is and in what way, if any, they represent the Soviet Government.

We shall appreciate your writing us in regard to this matter as fully as you can and inasmuch as our correspondent is anxious to hear from us promptly, we shall furthermore appreciate your early consideration to this request.

We are addressing a similar communication to the Department of State and to the Department of Commerce.

Thanking you, we are

Very truly yours,

MAR 9 1925

W. B. KONDOR

Vice President.

OWB:AW

RECORDED & INDEXED

BU. INVESTIGATION DIV.
FEB 28 1925 A. M.
DIVISION

61-5381-6
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 28 1925 P. M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Division 2

ack 3/5/25

61-5381

IF NOT DELIVERED IN 3 DAYS RETURN TO

HARRIMAN NATIONAL BANK

FIFTH AVENUE AND FORTY-FOURTH STREET

NEW YORK



The Honorable,

The Attorney General of the United States,

Washington, D. C.

TPB:JWM

61-5381

MAR 9 1925

March 5, 1925.

61-5381-6

Mr. O. W. Birkhead,
Harrigan National Bank,
Fifth Avenue and 44th St.,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Your communication of February 27th, 1925, concerning the AMORG TRADING COMPANY of New York City, has been referred to the Bureau for attention. I regret that I am unable to furnish you with any information on this organization.

Very truly yours,

Director.

MAILED

MAR 5 1925

RECORDED & INDEXED



THE HARRIMAN NATIONAL BANK

East Forty-Fourth Street and Fifth Avenue

MR. O. W. BIRCKHEAD, VICE PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, N. Y.

APR 25 1925

New York, N.Y.

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

JOURNAL TO BE MADE AT ORIGINATING OFFICE ONLY

REPORT MADE AT: <u>New York, N.Y.</u>	DATE WHEN MADE: <u>April 22, 1925</u>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <u>April 20, 1925</u>	REPORT MADE BY: <u>George J. Starr.</u>
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TITLE AND CHARACTER OF CASE:

RE: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES;

General Investigation.

FACTS DEVELOPED:

Synopsis of Facts:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/12/98 BY SP4 bjc/Hdw

N.Y. File No. 61-3

61-5381

Confidential info. recd. that Communist propaganda for establishing of Sov. form of Govt. in U.S. is being conducted at AMTORG, [redacted]

Details:

Info. also known to Maj. Gen. Bullard.
No immediate investigation to be made here because of conf. source. CONTD.

According to information just received by Agent from a confidential source, the most important propaganda in this country for the establishment of a Soviet form of Government is being conducted from the offices of AMTORG, 165 Broadway. [redacted]

It is also stated that [redacted]

Considerable other information was given to Agent at the same time, but is not being incorporated in this report as Agent made no extensive notes when he received the information because he has been promised a copy.

of a report being made on this matter. The

Approved and Forwarded:

Edward J. Brennan

REFERENCE:

#2

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:

Washington 3; New York 1;

FILE NO.

61-5381-7

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 23 1925 A.M.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROUTED TO:

Div. Two

FILED

INDEXED & INDEXED

GVS:VD

WJC - copy 61-5381-7 4/26/25

April 22, 1925

-2-

purpose of this report is to bring to the Bureau's attention, the above information and at the same time to inform the Bureau that the information is going to be brought to the attention of Major General Bullard, Retired, who is now at the head of the National Security League. Consequently it is presumed that the information will also come to the Bureau from that source. No further action will be taken at this time on the above matter pending receipt of instructions from the Bureau as it is possible that any investigation made immediately might hamper the source from which it has been received.

CONTINUED.

TFB:JWM

61-5361 - 7

MAY 7 - 1925

April 28, 1925.

Mr. E. J. Brennan,
P. O. Box 241,
City Hall Station,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Agent Starr
for the 22nd instant in re: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES and in
which mention is made of the [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] I note the suggestion that no further
action will be taken by your Office in view of the possibility
that it might result in cutting off the source of your informa-
tion, however, it is suggested that you confidentially communi-
cate with the Customs Authorities concerning [REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECORDED - 100-100000

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT New York, N.Y.

REPORT MADE AT: New York, N.Y.	DATE WHEN MADE: May 5, 1925	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: May 5, 1925	REPORT MADE BY: George J. Starr
TITLE: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES			CHARACTER OF CASE: General Investigation

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

N.Y. File No. 61-3

Customs representatives will be advised confidentially of reported [redacted] However, Agent at present is doubtful of authenticity of information regarding [redacted]

Continued.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/2/98 BY SP4 [signature] #387019

Details:

Reference is made to bureau letter of April 28th, initialed TFB:JWM 61-5381, regarding Communist activities, particularly the [redacted] United States.

Agents Valkenburgh and Valjavec who cover the ships arriving at this port have been informed to confidentially advise Customs Representatives of this information.

Since writing the previous report on this matter Agent has had further discussion with his source of information regarding the matters covered and as a result of this conversation Agent is somewhat doubtful as to the reliability of the information furnished. Agent was not furnished with the copy of the report with which he had expected to be furnished, but after hearing the report read, Agent, as stated above, is doubtful about the matter and will make no further effort to secure a copy of the report, as it contains several statements which are far-fetched

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	61-5381-8	RECORDED AND INDEXED: MAY 6 1925
WASHINGTON REFERENCE: #2	COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: Washington 3; New York 1; <i>[Signature]</i> SJS:VD	CHECKED OFF: MAY 18 1925
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		JACKETED:
ROUTED TO:		FILE

to say the least.

From conversation with Robert Case, Agent learned that MRS. ZILV does work in the AITORG office and the particular work which she performs is that of coding and decoding cablegrams received or sent by the AITORG office. He does not think that MRS. HOORGIN is working there at the present time.

Investigation continued.

Department of Justice,
Bureau of Investigation.

Box 163 - Seattle, Wash.

61-5381

LE:PO

JUNE 10, 1925

Director
Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Attention: #2

Dear Sir:

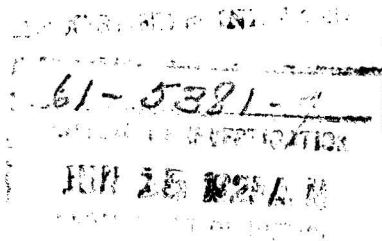
I inclose herewith clipping from the Seattle "Post-Intelligencer" of June 10, 1925, concerning the presence here of Russians who are in Seattle buying goods for shipment to Siberia. I also inclose their personal cards together with an anonymous communication and copy of the propaganda they are putting out relative to the resources of Siberia.

The above for your information.

Yours very truly,

M. Eberstein
M. Eberstein
Agent in Charge.

Incs - 7



ENCLOSURE

61-5381-9

For your information I submit the following: I was recently confidentially advised that there was a party of Russians occupying elaborate quarters at the Olympic Hotel, Seattle, who while ostensibly here for financial purposes were, in point of fact, disseminating Soviet propaganda; these facts seem to be well known by members of the local Russian colony, mainly refugees from Soviet tyranny.

I N RAZUMOVSKY is the head of the party, about 55 years of age, bald, short and stout; talks thru interpreter

B A LEVANOV, about same age, claims to have been in U S some 6 years speaks some English; evidently Jewish.

GUSTAV NEUMANN, German origin, claims to have been born in Russia, speaks English with German accent; comes from New York

These parties have been here something over two weeks; state their business is not politics and asked a purported reporter "not to say that our business is politics"; some connection between them and one AULT of the Union Record.

State that they are very satisfied with conditions in Russia, both political and financial; speak favorably of Trotzky; claim that there is no starvation in Russia and that everybody is contented with prevailing conditions there.

Have had some business with Chamber of Commerce, Seattle

Their actual business, according to Russians' statements, is to spread propaganda with view to assisting financial relations between U S and Soviet Russia rather than actual red propaganda. In some instances loyal Russians have refused to meet them and others have refused to take situations with them. Reported to have caused the discharge of a Russian employed as bell-boy at the hotel because he refused to enter their employ.

A Russian, said to be head of the student body here, named OUSHAKOFF is reported to be working with them and to be on that account cast off by loyal Russians.

One TREBIN (possibly the bell boy referred to) was sent for by them but refused to work for them

It is stated that one PAUL A UMOFF, with office in Smith Bldg may have some information concerning this outfit

61-5381-9

RESOURCES OF SIBERIA

Comparatively little systematized statistical data is available about the economic life and resources of Siberia, but such material as has been compiled by individual explorers and certain Government institutions convincingly indicates that economically Siberia will develop into the most important part of the Soviet Union.

The resources so far discovered have been the results of the initiative of casual prospectors and explorers, one can easily imagine what further riches may be found there when prospecting and exploration in that country will be encouraged and subsidized as is the case in the United States and Canada.

The principal resources of Siberia are as follows:

GOLD:

Already Herodotus, the historian of ancient Greece, mentions gold originating from the Altai Mountains, while heavy gold articles discovered in mounds in Southern Siberia by the crudeness of their workmanship clearly indicate that they were of local manufacture and that the gold was of local origin.

Gold is found in practically every part of Siberia. However, to the richest gold fields the access is so difficult that same can be exploited only on a large scale, and with the investment of a substantial capital.

The Lena Gold Company, Ltd., in 1911 produced over 25,000 pounds of gold in the Lena River district; a few months

ago the Soviet Government has returned this concession to the same English Company that exploited it before the war.

About five months ago new gold deposits were discovered near the Lena fields and those that were lucky enough to reach them were able in about one week's time to gather as much gold as they thought safe for them to take away, the yield being up to 3 pounds per day per man.

SILVER:

Although silver has been found in six different locations, same has been exploited only on a very small scale; The ore in the Guldator district in the Steppes region yields about 50% of silver bearing lead, or about $3\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of pure silver per ton.

IRON AND COAL:

Iron ore is very abundant in Siberia, but the richest is found in the Kuznetsk basin, yielding over 65% pure iron; the same basin also contains the largest coal fields (over 20,000 square miles).

It is predicted that this basin as a steel producing center will reach the importance of the Pittsburgh district.

The coal in the Kuznetsk basin is near the surface and can be worked with ordinary steam shovels and is of a grade most suitable for coke production.

Besides that coal is found practically in every section of Siberia, the most important deposits being located in the following regions: Semipalatinsk, Kiseisk, Irkutsk, Yatutsk, Kamchatka and Sakhaline.

COPPER:

31066

Copper is found in the Kirghese Steppes, Tomsk, Kiseisk, Irkutsk and the Zabaikal districts, but so far the exploitation of these deposits has been insignificant.

OTHER MINERALS:

Mercury, sulphur, salts, graphite and precious stones are found in various districts of Siberia.

TIMBER:

Siberia at present is considered as the richest lumber country in the world; the total area of timber suitable for commercial exploitation is even difficult to estimate, as data for only the following few districts are available:

Western Siberia	300,000,000 acres
Amur District	450,000,000 "

The other districts have not even been properly estimated.

The prevailing timbers are pine, spruce, and cedar; the Siberian Cedar at present is exploited principally for the Cedar mts, which occasionally also reach the American market, via Japan.

FURS:

Owing to the vast areas and abundance of fur bearing animals in the Eastern part of Siberia as well as owing to the superiority of the most furs in this region over furs of Western Siberia -- this Eastern section of Siberia furnishes the largest quantities of the most desirable furs exported by Soviet Russia.

The Barguzin, Amgun and Kamchatka sable, red, silver and white fox, squirrel and kolinsky are the principal objects of the Far-Eastern hunter and trapper.

All the furs of the Far-Eastern District are concen-

trated in the hands of the Dalgestorg which is the official import and export organization of the Far-Eastern part of Siberia; the Dalgestorg's field of activity reaches from the Baikal to the Arctic Sea in the North and to the Pacific Ocean in the East.

All over this vast area the Dalgestorg has numerous trading posts where the trappers and hunters exchange furs for merchandise or money. On the continent this exchange takes place mostly in the winter, while in Kamchatka and in the Furthest-North posts the bartering is effected all yeararound.

The furs thus obtained by the Dalgestorg are concentrated in Vladivostock, where they are assorted, graded, stored and prepared for export to the U.S. or European fur marketing centers.

The hunters and trappers of Siberia are principally settled or nomadic tribes, some fairly developed, others again entirely uncivilized, all of them very hospitable but shrewd.

FISHING:

Fishing concessions recently granted to Japanese and Scandinavian firms have proved very profitable for the fishing firms, and a part of the fish and fish oil produced there has been marketed in America; this has aroused the interest of several American fishing concerns, who at present already are negotiating concessions.

In spite of the rapacious methods frequently employed by unscrupulous fisherman, the waters adjoining Siberia are perhaps still the richest in the world; many seamen have reported that while sailing in the lower parts of certain Siberian rivers the progress of their vessel was actually impeded by the densely

packed shoals; it is also not an infrequent sight for the hunters to see a bear bending over at the river bank and leisurely selecting for himself with his paw a delicious meal from the shoals crowding by.

The high quality of the Siberian red fish and crabs is very well known, and already considerable quantities of same are reaching the American market, but principally via Japan.

That Japan fully appreciates the opportunities in Siberia is clearly evidenced by Viscount Shimpei Goto's recent plan to float a guild, capitalized at 150,000,000 yens, to handle the Russo-Japanese import and export trade; the Viscount's plans call also for a Government subsidy of 15,000,000 yens; besides that also Mr. Tetsukichi Kurachi, of the Russo-Japanese Society, and others are working to organize a Russian Trade Corporation.

AGRICULTURE:

Although there are a few centers in which more or less improved methods and implements are employed, on the whole, Siberia is far behind in agriculture and there is a steadily increasing demand for American agricultural machinery and implements; there are many vast sections in Southern Siberia which in quality of soil are not below the black soil district of the South of European Russia.

DAIRY INDUSTRY:

Already before the war Danish and German firms and individuals had appreciated the great opportunities in this line and several up-to-date creameries and cheese factories are in operation. It is not only the vast and rich pastures that attracted these foreigners, but also the peculiar selections of grass species and herbs on these pastures which impart the milk

certain specific good qualities; while Scandinavian milk yields on the average one pound of butter per 24 pounds of milk, this Siberian milk yields one pound of butter per 21½ pounds of milk.

OIL:

Rich oil deposits are found on the West shore of the Baikal, on Sakhaline and also in Kamchatka, but so far these deposits have been very little exploited.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOURCES:

Besides the above mentioned resources, Siberia holds various other riches, like crude drugs, rare minerals, etc; it may be of interest to know that a considerable part of American billiard balls and piano keys are manufactured from mammoth tusks hailing from remote parts of the Tobolsk, Eniseisk and Yakutsk, but also this item, as a rule, reaches the American market via England or Japan.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SIBERIA WILL BOOST THE NORTHWEST:

The development of Siberia and the exploitation of its resources will increase the demand for American machinery and certain raw materials, ^{the} resulting prosperity will lead to a greater demand for various household commodities and luxury articles of American origin which the population has been denying itself not only since the war but to some extent also prior to the war, owing to various economic conditions and circumstances.

It may be safely assumed that the development of Siberian resources will at the same time mean a boost of the Northwest similar to the boost some years ago when the development of Alaska started.

DALGOSTORG REPRESENTATIVES PURCHASING SUPPLIES IN SEATTLE

The Dalgostorg representatives, Mr. I. N. Rammovsky and R. A. Levanev, arrived in Seattle several weeks ago for the purpose of purchasing trading post supplies for Kamchatka and the shore of the Arctic Ocean.

The supplies purchased by them were shipped on the SS. President McKinley, President Jefferson and also on the SS. Victoria via Hong Kong.

Practically all of these purchases were effected right here in Seattle and the Dalgostorg representatives are about to return to Siberia, where Mr. Rammovsky is in charge of the Main Import Department Office of the Dalgostorg in Khabarovsk, while Mr. Levanev is the Manager of the Commercial Department of the Kamchatka Expedition organized by the Dalgostorg.

The Dalgostorg representatives are greatly pleased with the straightforwardness of the Western business men and hope that more frequent visits by Dalgostorg representatives will lead to a better understanding between the Northwest and Siberia and will tend to divert to Seattle additional Dalgostorg purchases which at present are being effected in the Far East.

The Dalgostorg controls the imports and exports of the vast territory East of the Baikal up to the shores of the Pacific and Arctic Ocean.

At present already the following American products are being exported to Siberia in considerable quantities; agricultural machinery, rosin, stearic acid, trading post supplies and office supplies; gradually Siberia will develop into a significant market for the following additional products: road building machinery, dairy machinery, mining machinery, railway supplies, machine tools and instruments, and logging machinery.

The permanent representative of the Dalgostorg in the United States is the Amtorg Trading Corporation of New York, which is also the sole representative in the U.S. of the Russian, Ukrainian, Caucasian and Siberian Gostorgs, the largest trading organizations of Russia and covering practically the whole territory of the Union of Soviet Republics.

The Amtorg was organized about a year ago and during the first year

RUSSIA MAKES HUGE SUPPLY PURCHASE HERE

Soviet Agents Announce \$200,-
000 Outlay; Seattle Mer-
chants Are Benefited

OFFICIALS IN CITY MONTH

Marks First Visit Of Siberian
Government Representatives;
More Trade Coming

I. N. Razumovsky, first commercial representative of the Siberian Soviet government to visit the Pacific Northwest,



yesterday announced the expenditure of approximately \$200,000 in Seattle in supplies and freight.

Razumovsky is in charge of the main import department office of the Dalgostorg, the Soviet government business organization in the Far East. He and B. A. Levanov, in charge of the commercial department for the province of Kamchatka, in the extreme northeast of Siberia, have been in Seattle and vicinity for a month, they disclosed yesterday.

NO WHISKERS

Their purchases are in part being shipped back via Vladivostock and in part, for the Kamchatka district, by way of Nome.

Razumovsky shattered all popular beliefs that Soviet representatives are composed principally of whiskers and unkempt hair. His face was not only innocent of beard but his bullet-shaped head was as cleanly shaved as his cheeks and his only hirsute adornment was a tiny moustache of the toothbrush variety.



B. A. Levanov

TO BUY MACHINERY

Razumovsky's purchases here, he said through an interpreter, were principally trading post supplies for Kamchatka, office supplies, agricultural machinery, rosin and stearic acid.

In the future, he declared, the Dalgostorg, which controls the imports and exports of the vast territory east of the Baikal, up to the shores of the Pacific and Arctic oceans, will be in the market for road building machinery, dairy machinery, mining machinery, logging equipment, railway supplies, machine tools and instruments.

The envoy's eyes twinkled when he was asked about Siberian political conditions.

VAST WEALTH

"I am not with the political department of the government; just with the business administration," his interpreter replied.

Razumovsky pictured Siberia as a vast storehouse of virgin wealth and in a prepared statement indicated the desire of the Soviet government to induce capital to enter the country.

"Gold is found in practically every part of Siberia," he said. "However, to the richest gold fields the access is so difficult that same can be exploited only on a large scale, and with the investment of a substantial capital."

Razumovsky, in his prepared statement praised "the straightforwardness of the Western business men," and expressed the hope that later visits by Dalgostorg representatives will lead to additional purchases here.

B. A. LEVANOV

**MANAGER COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT
KAMTCHATKA AND ARCTIC OCEAN
TRADING EXPEDITION OF DALGOSTORG**

HABAROVSK E. SIBERIA

I. N. RAZUMOVSKY
IMPORT MANAGER OF DALGOSTORG

HABAROVSK E. SIBERIA

TELEPHONE CORTLANDT 7342

AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

GUSTAV NEUMANN

165 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

TEB:JWM

61-5381

Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

April 28, 1925.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER:

I am attaching hereto a report submitted by Agent Starr, dated April 22nd, in re: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES, which report I believe you will find interesting, and in view of the fact that it is short, I will not endeavor to summarize it. I am suggesting to the New York Office that they confidentially advise the Customs Officials of [redacted] [redacted] and that a careful search of his trunk may possibly develop information of interest.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover

3/12/98

#357019

encl.
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RECORDED & INDEXED

61-5381-10
JUN 13 1925 A.M.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
Mr. One FILE

No Enclosure in
envelope when file
opened.
4-11-10-39

RECEIVED
1940

61-5381-12

ENCLOSURE

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C.

October 13, 1928.

61-5381

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

244
The attached copy of a release of a letter to the Press dated October 8, 1928, on the letterhead of the National Civic Federation, 33rd Floor, Metropolitan Tower, New York City was handed to me on October 11, 1928, by Mr. A. Landau, 1406 G St., N. W., Washington, D. C. Mr. Landau was desirous of having the Federal government institute an investigation relative to the disparaging remarks contained in the referred to press release, reflecting upon the representations of the officers of the Amtorg Corporation, the Soviet Commercial Agency in the United States. Mr. Landau alleges that he conferred with Mr. Kelley, of the State Department, relative to this matter. In response to the question as to his official connection, if any, and as to the nature of his affiliations Mr. Landau replied that he was presenting this complaint as a citizen of the United States.

He was exceedingly boisterous and mentioned that the Soviet Government was entitled to exist and should be granted recognition by the United States Government, as the Soviet Government was a government instituted by the people of Russia. He mentioned that the various capitalistic countries and other individuals connected with large corporations and patriotic organizations have been spreading malicious propaganda bearing on the integrity of the officials of the Soviet Government, in Russia and the United States.

In view of the fact that there does not appear to be a violation of the laws of the United States involved in Mr. Landau's complaint, no action is being taken in this matter.

Respectfully,

J. P. MacFarland

*encl
Wm
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102*

RECORDED & INDEXED

OCT 15 1928

61-5381-17	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 15 1928 A. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Mr. Clegg	Mr. Glavin

C O P Y :

THE NATIONAL CIVIC FEDERATION
33rd Floor Metropolitan Tower
New York City.

C O P Y :

Press Service

----- 21051
For Release in Papers of Monday, October 6, 1923.

STOP ALL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES IN UNITED STATES

Matthew Woll, acting president of the National Civic Federation, so advises the Amtorg Trading Corporation in an open letter to its Soviet Chairman--He points out that, until our government demands are fully met, the American people will never favor recognition.

The National Civic Federation, 33rd Floor Metropolitan Tower, N.Y. City.
October 6, 1923.

Mr. A. L. Scheinman,
c/o Amtorg Trading Corporation,
165 Broadway, New York City.

Dear Sir:-

The cables tell us that you have resigned the presidency of the Soviet State Bank preparatory to coming to New York for the purpose of becoming the head of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, the Soviet commercial bureau in charge of the promotion of trade and commercial relations between the Russian Soviet Government and citizens of the United States.

At the same time, the cables tell of the practical breakdown of the fantastic industrial and economic policies of the Soviets which has led to such panicky business and financial conditions in your country. They point out that now, on account of the almost universal failure of the commercial ventures engaged in by the capitalists of European countries, the Soviets have only one place to go for money; that is, the United States.

Of course, having cable communications of its own with the outside world, the United States knows all about these commercial failures, beginning with that of the notorious attempt to bribe our government by a \$5,000,000.00 provisional contract granted to Sinclair and coming on down to the complete fiasco of the spectacularly advertised Harrison concession and the concession granted to the German Chancellor Joseph Wirth. If ever a man had the right to be treated squarely by Moscow, it was that self-same chancellor who had given it the Rappalo Treaty; but a Berlin cablegram to the New York Times of September 28, 1923, concludes with the following:

"Today, the closing balance of that concessionary, called the Hologo Timber Company (The Wirth concession), which is in liquidation, shows a total loss of 16,500,000 marks (\$4,125,000.) The creditors received 27 per cent of their money; the shareholders lost every cent. All the German employees of the company have been withdrawn from Russia".

On October 1st, only a few days ago, a special cablegram to the New York Times from London quoted the London Daily Mail as declaring the new foreign concession policy of the Soviet to be nothing but a gigantic swindle and explained that:

In all concessions granted to foreigners in recent years the Soviet police has been to stir up difficulties afterwards so that they can find excuses for inheriting--the new Soviet word for stealing--the enterprises. Thus vast amount of property belonging to foreign capitalists has been confiscated. It is now clear that the present object of the Bolsheviki is to secure money to establish further industries which they can steal later".

Referring to the present pro-Soviet recognition drive in this country and your contemplated connection with it, a well-known Washington publicity service, regarded as sympathetic with Soviet proposals and having a clientele of several thousand financial and business institutions, makes the following illuminating statement in one of its recent confidential letters: "Moscow has made two very significant moves. They are:

- "a, Issuance of decree inviting foreign business interests to enter the country,'practically upon capitalistic terms.'
- "B, Detachment of Scheinman from the Presidency of the Soviet state bank and his appointment as chief of Russian trade activities in the United States."

The two events are closely inter-related. They are based on Moscow's belief that, with the advent of a new American President, the time will be ripe to press for diplomatic recognition by both Washington and London. Moscow is gradually approaching the terms laid down by President Coolidge. The next step may be some move in the direction of debt settlements, possibly along the lines followed in the arrangement for payment to former holders of oil properties. Scheinman's instructions, we are told, are to negotiate credits in the United States and to attempt, later, on the basis of the trade developed, to open conversations looking toward recognition of the Moscow government by Washington. A responsible Russian view is that America is almost ready to welcome a virgin outlet for its production, which is already beginning to find domestic and other foreign markets in a state of preliminary saturation.--Soviet circles seem to be hopeful that, should Hoover be elected, Borah would be his Secretary of State, and would be able, in that position to obtain Hoover's consent to the opening of informal preliminary conversations looking toward recognition.

While that bureau indicates the selection of Mr. Borah as the next Secretary of State in the event of the election of Mr. Hoover, the New York Evening Post Foreign Service, in a cablegram of September 28, 1928, from Berlin, at the end of significant interview with German "statesmen" who hope they see a coalition coming between Germany and the United States in the matter of dealing with Soviet Russia as against the opposition of France and England to that policy, adds:

"Especially is this a fact since it is expected that Hoover, if elected, will appoint Dwight Morrow Secretary of State. He is thought here to be an adherent of recognition."

But if Governor Smith should be elected, according to another sympathetic "private bulletin",--which does not, however, suggest the name of the new Secretary of State, it is understood that the kitchen cabinet of Governor Smith favors recognition. Whatever truth there may be in this journalistic gossip, I do not pretend to say. It is true, however, that a well-defined combination of Democratic and Republican Soviet sympathizers is seeking to influence both candidates.

Now, it is true that I am the Acting President of the organization declared to Stalin by a so-called labor commission visiting Moscow to be largely responsible for the opposition in this country to the recognition of Soviet Russia. This charge is made also by William Z. Foster, your party's candidate for the Presidency of the United States in the coming election, in

a book viciously attacking our bona fide trade union leaders. Whether or not The National Civic Federation is entitled to that credit, it may not be amiss for me, assuming for the moment the role of an expert on Russian sentiment in this country, to tell you why the United States withholds such recognition and also to suggest how you might facilitate a change in that steadfast policy.

It has been scarcely more than a week since, at a luncheon given by the National Civic Federation and attended by leading representatives of labor, financial, manufacturing, political and cultural groups, the following questions were discussed:

"Should the United States Government accord official recognition to the Russian Soviet regime? Should it endorse an unofficial commission of our citizens to confer in Russia with officials of that regime, unless and when, in both cases, the Soviet Government should suppress completely its brazen propaganda aimed at the overthrow of our institutions and of our Government as well?"

The unanimous opinion of this important group was that recognition should not be granted to the Soviet regime nor trade relations established with it until Moscow should, first, stop all of its subversive activities in the United States; second, reimburse American citizens for the property stolen from them; third, pay its debts to our Government; and, fourth, establish a regime which, recognizing the sanctity of international obligations, would be fit to associate with civilized nations. In other words, the meeting unqualifiedly endorsed the policy maintained by our Government toward the Russian Soviet regime from its establishment to the present day, under both a Democratic and two successive Republican administrations. To be more specific, let me quote from the Secretaries of State under those three administrations, prefacing them with the following pronouncements by President Coolidge and the Honorable Elihu Root, a former Secretary of State:

"President Coolidge: I do not propose to barter away for the privilege of trade any of the cherished rights of humanity. I do not propose to make merchandise of any American principles. These rights and principles must go wherever the sanctions of our Government go."

"Hon. Elihu Root: For the United States to recognize Russia would be to publicly acknowledge that the avowed purpose of the present Russian government to overthrow by force our system of government is consistent with international friendship. Of course, that would be a lie."

"Hon. Banbridge Colby: It is not possible for the Government of the United States to recognize the present rulers of the Russian Soviet government ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ with which relations common to friendly government can be maintained. This conviction has nothing to do with any particular political or social structure which the Russian people themselves may see fit to embrace. It rests upon a wholly different set of facts. These facts, which none disputes, have convinced the Government of the United States, against its will, that the existing regime in Russia is based on the negation of every principle of honor and good faith, and every usage and convention, underlying the whole structure of international law; the negation, in short, of every principle upon which it is possible to base harmonious and trustful relations, whether of nations or of individuals. The responsible leaders of the regime have frequently and openly boasted that they are willing to sign agreements and undertakings with foreign powers while not having the slightest intention of observing such undertakings or carrying out such agreements. Indeed, upon numerous occasions the responsible spokesmen of this Power, and its official agencies, have declared that it is their understanding that the very existence of bolshevism in Russia, the maintenance of their own

rule, depends and must continue to depend, upon the occurrence of revolution in all other great civilized nations, including the United States, which will overthrow and destroy their Governments and set up Bolshevist rule in their stead."

"Hon. Charles Evans Hughes: There would seem to be at this time no reason for negotiations. The American Government, as the President said, in his message to the Congress, is not proposing to barter ~~any~~ away its principles. If the Soviet authorities are ready to restore the confiscated property of American citizens or make effective compensation they can do so. It requires no conference or negotiations to accomplish these results, which can and should be achieved at Moscow as evidence of good faith. The American Government has not incurred liabilities to Russia or repudiated obligations." Most serious is the continued propaganda to overthrow the institutions of this country. This Government can enter into no negotiations until these efforts directed from Moscow are abandoned."

"Hon. Frank B. Kellogg: During the past four years the Government of the United States has maintained the position that it would be both futile and unwise to enter into relations with the Soviet Government so long as the Bolshevik leaders persist in aims and practices in the field of international relations which preclude the possibility of establishing relations on the basis of accepted principles governing intercourse between nations. It is the conviction of the Government of the United States that relations on a basis usual between friendly nations can not be established with a governmental entity which is the agency of a group who hold it as their mission to bring about the overthrow of the existing political, economic and social order throughout the world and who regulate their conduct towards other nations accordingly." Current developments demonstrate the continued persistence at Moscow of a dominating world revolutionary purpose and the practical manifestation of this purpose in such ways as render impossible the establishment of normal relations with the Soviet government. The present rulers of Russia, while seeking to direct the evolution of Russia along political, economical and social lines in such manner as to make it an effective base of the world revolution, continue to carry on, through the Communist International and other organizations with headquarters at Moscow, within the borders of other nations, including the United States, extensive and carefully planned operations for the purpose of ultimately bringing about the overthrow of the existing order in such nations. A mass of data with respect to the activities ~~of~~ carried on in the United States by various Bolshevik organizations under the direction and control of Moscow, was presented by the Department of State to a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in January 1924. Since that time these activities have been developed and extended to include for example, the stirring up of resentment against the Government and the people of the United States in the countries of Latin America and in the Far East and the supervision by Moscow of the organizations through which these activities are carried on has become even more comprehensive and more ~~of~~ pronounced. The Government of the United States feels no concern lest this systematic interference in our affairs lead in the end to a consummation of the Bolshevik plan to bring about the overthrow of our government and institutions. The Government of the United States, however, does not propose to acquiesce in such interference by entering into relations with the Soviet Government. Nor can the Government of the United States overlook the significance of the

activities carried on in our midst under the direction of Moscow as evidence of the continuation of the fundamental hostile purpose of the present rulers of Russia, which makes vain any hope of establishing relations on a basis usual between friendly nations. In the view of the Government of the United States a desire and disposition on the part of the present rulers of Russia to comply with accepted principles governing international relations is an essential pre-requisite to the establishment of a sound basis of intercourse between the two countries. A clear and unequivocal recognition of the sanctity of international obligations is of vital importance, not only as concerns the development of relations between the United States and Russia, but also as regards the peaceful and harmonious development of relations between nations. No result beneficial to the people of the United States, or, indeed, to the people of Russia, would be attained by entering into relations with the present regime in Russia so long as the present rulers of Russia have not abandoned those avowed aims and known practices which are inconsistent with international friendship. While the international aims and practices of the present rulers of Russia preclude the recognition of the so-called Soviet Government by the United States, the Government and the people of the United States are now, as in the past, animated by a sincere friendship for the Russian people.

In addition to these official statements, I quote, also, the action taken by certain important non-governmental organizations, beginning with the declaration made by the American Federation of Labor at its Annual Convention in 1927:

"We regard the Soviet regime in Russia as the most unscrupulous, most anti-social, most menacing institution in the world today. Between it and our form of political and social organizations there can be no compromise of any kind. We repeat the call to American trade unionists to stand true to their faith, to be militant in their defense of the principles of freedom and justice for which our movement stands and upon which our democracy rests its foundation walls."

At its 1926 annual meeting, the United States Chamber of Commerce declared: "We endorse the position of our Government in refusing to recognize Soviet Russia and pledge the continuing support of organized business in that refusal, until Soviet Russia provides adequate assurances of its purpose to maintain international relations in accordance with recognized standards, with evidence of its intent to redress past wrongs."

The New York Chamber of Commerce, the largest and most representative local commercial organization in the United States, made this vigorous utterance in 1927:

"Recognition would accord diplomatic and consular privileges to the agents of the Soviet Government whereby they and their staff could establish foci for the dissemination of subversive doctrines at their convenience throughout the United States, and we would be unable to stop it, save by a breach of relations after the damage was done."

The National Civic Federation: We believe that recognition of Soviet Russia would be a repudiation of all that our national life has represented for a hundred and fifty years, and of all the spiritual ideal for which modern civilization has striven for two thousand years."

Curiously enough, at the moment when patriotic Americans are demanding of Moscow the suppression of the abominable work which it is doing here through its official agencies, startling confirmation of the basic truth of the charges against the Reds comes to hand from Walter Duranty, the Moscow correspondent of the New York Times/ In his wireless to the Times on September

23, 1928, Mr. Duranty, in an effort to break the force of the European prophecies of the coming collapse of the Bolshevik regime, makes the following observation:

"There is a reason to believe that the Soviet wishes to emerge from the present economic and diplomatic impasse with the United States and Great Britain and that it would be prepared to go half way or more to meet foreign conditions, if that can be done without losing face." But it might possibly give acceptable guarantees that no funds should be transferred from Moscow to the American or British Communist Party, and American financial advisers might be welcomed to cooperate in the utilization of a loan of credits."

There we have the naked admission of an undisguised truth. If we will do business with the Soviets, they will stop their nefarious work in America by giving "guarantees that no funds should be transferred from Moscow to the American or British Communist Party"; and of course, if the money is cut off, it is supposed to follow that the bedevilment will have to stop. Secretary Hughes's statement, quoted above, answers all that--"Go ahead and do it first and we will talk about business afterward." There are no satisfactory guarantees" short of complete suspension and it does not require any getting around a table to bring that about. But, curiously enough, the Communist Party is not the only agency through which Moscow is carrying on its virulent propaganda and reptilian practices. The Communist Party is but one of Moscow's many poisonous fangs.

Last Winter, in a letter to the American-Russian Chamber of Commerce I appealed to that body, in view of its extremely cordial relations with Bolsheviks Russia, to use its influence with the Moscow Government to bring about the suppression of all the Soviet propaganda in our country, for which it was wholly responsible. As evidence of the vicious character of the attacks being made upon our Government and institutions and, particularly, upon the American Labor movement, a three months' subscription to the official organ of the Communist Party in America, the Daily Worker, published in this city, was sent to the president of the Chamber. Nothing came of that effort. Instead the propaganda has increased in extent and its venom has become more deadly. In fact, the Daily Worker has recently blossomed out in a new dress, with new presses. It has enlarged its columns and has added to its cost of production, all without any advertising or legitimate increase of income or any other visible means of support. To indicate the malignant nature of this sheet, I send you copies of recent issues describing, with full-page headlines, the formation by the Communists of the new rival textile workers' and mine workers' unions with which to fight the A.F. of L. organization in those industries. Also, I send you the issue of July 8, 1927, containing a pronouncement cabled from Moscow instructing the Communists here how to proceed with their vicious undermining work in this country.

It is quite possible that, in its feverish anxiety to sell a handfull of goods (our trade with Russia, all told, amounts to only one per cent of our total foreign trade,) the American-Russian Chamber of Commerce did not care to take up this ticklish matter. Doubtless, similar fears possessed your predecessor in the Amtorg Trading Corporation to whom copies of these letters were sent. So, it may well be that none of the real objections to doing business with your Government ever penetrated to the Russian People. For that reason, as indicated, I am addressing you as "The new man on the job", in the hope that you may find a way to convey to them the facts set forth in this letter.

That you may gain a thorough understanding of the reasons back of our Government's opposition to Soviet recognition, which I assume to be what you want to know, let me urge that, before taking up your duties here as

head of the Amtorg, you thoroughly examine the activities of the Communist Party and other Communistic agencies acting under direct orders from Moscow as previously stated, and supported, as Duranty admits, by Moscow money. The charge is made that it is through the Amtorg that all the money for Communist activities in this country is handled. A like charge was made in the case of the Arcos, the "Amtorg" of London and Peking.

It is also asserted that, under the direction of the Amtorg and through its offices, there exists here in the United States a very active Soviet secret service which is not doing our country any good and which is being used as an instrument of repressing Russians in America by threats to crush their families and beloved ones still in Russia. Since, unfortunately, we have no "Scotland Yard" at the moment, these assertions have not yet been fully substantiated; but you will be in a position to get at the facts and it goes without saying that as an evidence of good faith, you will report them to our Government.

Of course, I am not telling the Communists anything that they do not know in respect to the temporary "padlocking" of the Bureau of Investigation of the United States Department of Justice, as they had a hand in bringing it about, and, you may well laugh at such an absurd state of affairs existing in a country having 120,000,000 people. Naturally, the Communist leaders are saying to their members; "Go the limit! The Federal Government ~~has~~ doesn't know anything and the state governments can't do anything!"

The National ~~Government~~ Civic Federation does not propose to sit idly by. It has just appointed a committee to make further inquiries into the Communist activities here which I trust will include a study of that anomalous situation. You might learn much from the findings of that body. Its investigation will take in not only the revolutionary propaganda belching forth from the columns of the Daily Worker but matter in the Freiheit and all the other foreign-language papers. ~~It will~~ It will embrace Labor Unity, the official organ of the Trade Union Educational League, the Communist labor organization in this country which, as you know, is headed by your Presidential candidate in our coming election and is openly trying to capture, undermine or destroy the American Federation of Labor, and the railroad brotherhoods. As illustrative of its diabolical work, let me invite you to look into the situation created by it among the miners of Pennsylvania, the textile workers of New Bedford and Fall River and the silk workers of Passaic, to say nothing of the needle trade and fur workers in New York, Chicago and Cleveland where it is endeavoring to destroy successful movements now under theegis of the American Federation of Labor.

But it is not only in the labor unions that Moscow is working against the interests of our country. Look into the machinations of the Labor Defense Council, the American Negro Labor Congress, the Trade Union Educational League, the Women's Communist Council, the All-American Anti-Imperialistic League, the American Society for Promotion of Cultural Relations with Russia, the Young People's Communist League and the Young Pioneers. When you have done all this, you can well understand why the American people will not permit its Government to recognize Soviet Russia.

I sincerely hope that you will not resort to the old trickery of saying that Soviet Russia is not responsible for the Communist Party nor accountable for the activities of the Third National. We are familiar with the fantastic fiction that the Soviet Government cannot control the Third National and, therefore, can do nothing to stop the vicious work it is doing in the United States, although the officials of the Government, of the Communist Party and of the Third International are one and the same, -- Stalin, Bukharin, Rykoff, for instance. If your chiefs should order you to spring that hoary joke on us, let me suggest that you put the following question to them for me; Since the Soviet Government undeniably has complete control of itself, would it allow The National Civic Federation, the

American Federation of Labor or the United States Chamber of Commerce, or all three combined-not ~~only~~ that I am speaking for the two latter organizations-to establish, under adequate protection, an organization in Russia having the same free rein to fight the Soviet Government and all its institutions which is given the Workers' Communist Party in this country?" This of course, would include the establishment of a paper in Moscow following the same lines in its appeal to the peasants and the honest workers to overthrow the Soviet Government as are followed by the Daily Workers in its appeal to the American workers to overthrow their Government.

If the Soviet Government would give satisfactory guarantees in this connection, let me predict that it would not be long before we would be able to take care of the Third International in Moscow as well as in the United States and other countries where its dastardly work is going on. At any rate, until it is willing to grant us that right, it should be willing to abandon the abominable activities which it is financing and conducting in this country.

We are not concerned about the glowing and fulsome reports being put out by the various Socialists and Left-Wing Liberals who go over to Russia for week-end sojourns and then return to circulate propaganda for Soviet recognition. We hope that all the claims regarding rapid improvement in that unhappy land are true for we have only the friendliest feelings for the peasants of Russia. But, while we would be happy to believe these wonderful reports of progress made by your fleeting guests, we are forced to give more weight to official documents published in Russia itself. For instance, Trud, the official trade union newspaper in Moscow, in referring to the conditions of the working classes in Soviet Russia, says that drunkenness has reached such a frightful stage that in the working class districts in the suburbs, it is impossible for a sober person to pass through unmolested. Trud furnishes the following authoritative explanation of the reasons for this terrible condition of affairs:

"The Chief cause which is responsible for all the ugly and terrible living habits of our people is to be found in the scandalous and callous attitude of our economic officials to the housing conditions of the workers. In the Pribludnyy factory "Red Echo" the workers are compelled to live in the old barracks; in crowded, dark and filthy surroundings the workers find only one comfort-drink. Some 60 per cent of the inhabitants of the prison in the town have been sentenced for drunkenness." The connection between bad housing and inebriety is specially noticeable at Kolhugino. Here the workers live 70 in one room and are therefore heavy drinkers and unapproachable for cultural purposes. These examples are not even the worst; there are factories in Soviet Russia where the workers live in small dirty rooms in tiers, i.e., four cots one above the other, in order that 210 persons may be accommodated instead of 70."

Then we have those books on Russia just put out by Anne O'Hare McCormick and Dorothy Thompson, as well as the reports made by Mrs. Elizabeth Shaw Montgomery, all of whom have spent months, not week-ends in Russia. At the National Civic Federation's luncheon previously mentioned, one of the greatest industrial experts in the United States, Mr. Whiting Williams, who had just returned from several weeks' stay in Russia, gave a graphic description of conditions, closing with the declaration that the United States should not recognize the Soviet regime.

But, aside from humanitarian considerations, we are not concerned about what the Soviets are doing in Russia. We are concerned about what they are doing or trying to do in this country. And, let me tell you, the American people are getting exceedingly tired of the brazen and impudent assaults which Moscow is persistently making upon our government while at

the same time it is trying to borrow money from our citizens, not only to purchase needed products but also to finance the very propaganda to overthrow our institutions. For example, during the last sixty days, there have been in this country three men, M. Sorokin, I. Chalepsky and M. Rogoff, respectively, described as "the President of the Russian Automobile Manufacturers' Association, a leading industrialist in the Soviet, and vice-Mayor of Moscow, who have come to negotiate, in behalf of the Soviet Government for the purchase of \$40,000,000.00 worth of motor trucks and other machinery. They are announced as planning to visit the great automobile manufacturing plants of Detroit. They want those firms to sell them motor trucks and to lend them the money to pay for them, while at the same time they know well that their government is doing everything in its power to overthrow the very system which makes it possible for this country to have those great industrial plants. Think of it! Could anything be more comic? And you seem to be getting away with it! Under such circumstances, it is not strange that your Government should openly voice its contempt for American business men. Read and ponder upon the following remarks quoted by Anne O'Hare McCormick in her article, "What Russia thinks of the Rest of us," published in the New York Times of December 18, 1927.

"Communists ~~that~~ think that we would do anything for money. Stalin suggested that American capital would have no scruple in lending money to build up Communism if only it was guaranteed interest enough on its investment. What do your capitalists care for this system or that system. Smiled Tchitcherine, bland and unharried in the guarded quiet of his midnight office hours. What they want is profit. That capital under any circumstance could ever be unselfish or idealistic, that it could ever serve the State unless owned by the State, is inconceivable".

Let me recapitulate, Stop the Soviet propaganda and activities in the United States! Pay our citizens for the goods and money you stole from them! Pay what you owe our Government! Establish a government that civilized nations can afford to associate with! Then Russia will receive all the recognition, the money and credits she wants. It is not the people of Russia that we are against. President Wilson, Samuel Compers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and Alton B. Parker, president of The National Civic Federation, all sent ~~congratulatory~~ congratulatory messages to the leader of the revolution which overthrew the Czarist rule. Your Communist regime has overthrown the revolution and has re-established Czarism only under another form.

Soviet Russia does not and cannot represent the Russian people. Soviet Russia would not dare to allow the Russian people to rule themselves. How can a civilized nation like ours want any association with a government whose officials would boldly make the following announcement, published in Pravda of September 9, 1928. under the heading "The Revolutionary Compass."

"The world-wide nature of our programme is not mere talk but an all-embracing and blood-soaked reality. It cannot be otherwise. Our ultimate aim is World Communism. Our fighting preparations are for World Revolution for the conquest of power on a world-wide scale and the establishment of a world proletarian dictatorship. Therefore, the program of the communist International is obligatory on all its sections.

It is the guide to the fighting of the millions of oppressed against the oppressors, in the fighting of the proletarian masses and the fight of the toilers generally white, yellow and black.

In the fights in the tropics and in the fights in the most distant places of our planet; in the ^{factories} in factories and on plantations; in the forests and in the deserts, on the railways and in the mines, everywhere where the class war must take place.

31060

Mr. A. L. Scheinman, page 10.

Our program openly throws down the deadly challenge to the bourgeois world.

The Communists have no reason to hide their aims. Our ultimate aim and the means of their achievement, our strategy and our tactics are clearly elucidated in the program.

Very truly yours,

(sgd.) Matthew Boll,

Acting President.

January 21, 1930.

Memorandum of telephone call from Mr. Adams of the New York Sun.

Mr. Adams said the Paris correspondent had had an interview with the former Charge d'Affaires Bethodowski(?) of the Russian Embassy who stated that Amtort is sending money to the United States for the purpose of propaganda. Mr. Hoover suggested that Mr. Adams talk to Mr. Luhring. Mr. Hoover said that any request would come to the Bureau from the Department.

HNG

RECORDED & INDEXED

JAN 27 1930

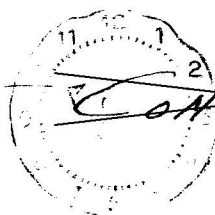
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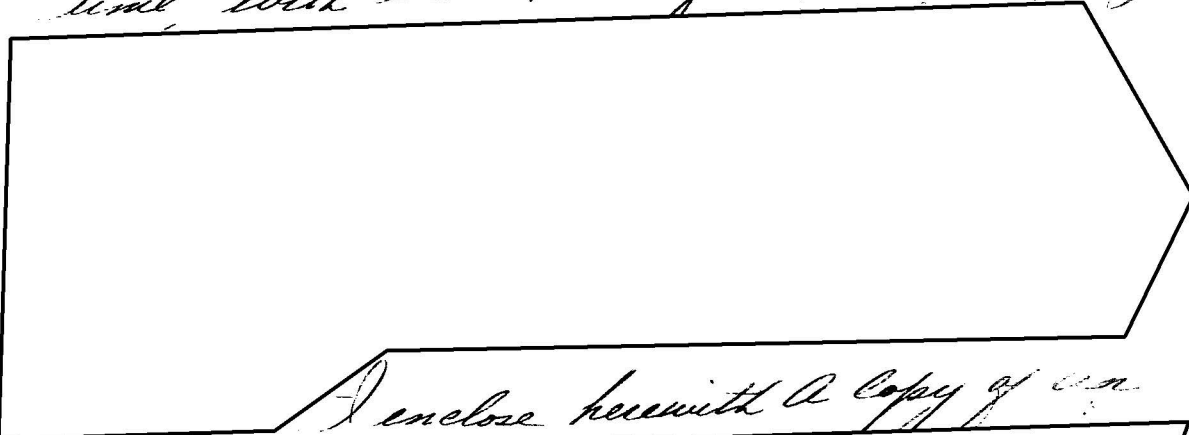
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TWO

Sir:-



I am in a position to furnish your department, from time to time, with valuable information concerning



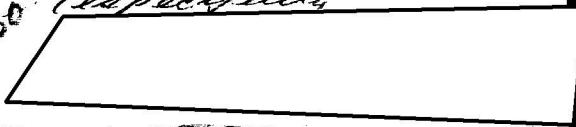
I enclose herewith a copy of an address

from one of the New York radio broadcasting stations.

I trust that I may be of

Very truly yours,
J. E. Moore
Washington, D. C.
Ack. 5-10-30

Respectfully



March 28, 1930

It has often been said that growths which imperil the life of nations are fostered during periods of hardship and depression. The idea is firmly fixed in the public mind that when the national outlook is dark and uncertain, when unemployment and anxiety are widespread, and storm-clouds are gathering over a country, that this is the only time when evil and menacing ideas can gain headway. The insidious beginnings and the dangerous spread of alien growths such as Communism has long been popularly associated with darkness, misery and discontent. No greater mistake than this could possibly be made. It is when we are dazzled by the bright sunlight of national prosperity that serpent-growths creep in upon us and fasten their coils upon us. In dark and anxious days men are on the watch for national enemies. They mistrust the propagandist, the alien orator on his soap-box. Free and enlightened nations like America are not easily misled in periods of national peril. They are apt to fear and distrust strange doctrines especially such as seek to attack the institutions of government upon which the nation's faith is strongly fixed. They will put their heel upon the viper's head.

My observation and experience has fully convinced me that it is in days of unprecedented plenty and prosperity when we are blinded by the high-noon of national advancement that these venomous ideas nestle their poisonous life within the nation's household and unnoticed make good their foothold and thriving on our carelessness and relaxed vigilance entrench themselves and form connections which

61-5381-20

are wholly unsuspected by the people in general.

This is what has happened in the case of Communism. We have enjoyed a period of great national prosperity.- an era unlike any which this nation or any other nation ever saw. Great forward strides have been made, national dreams realized and still greater hopes and promises lie ahead of us. This has not affected a few people or any class - good fortune in unheard of measure has come to all sections of the country and all classes. There has been money to spend, money to enjoy and money to invest. Things that once were the exclusive luxuries of the rich have become the common possessions of all classes. The right to live and be happy has become wide-spread and general in this country as never before in the world's history.

But this golden time has seen the rise and crafty access of power of deadly national peril. Men and women have been too busily engaged in the enjoyment of prosperity to read the seditious utterance of ~~for-~~^{the} ~~Communist~~ ~~sign-language~~ newspapers controlled from abroad. They have been engrossed in profitable daily work and they have had the means to fill their leisure with absorbing pleasures and interests. They have had neither the time nor the inclination to notice or to question the processes by which the Red manace has planted its forces and increased its power in this country. Prosperity, not adversity, has screened the growth of Communism and the forces of terrorism, atheism, cruelty greed and destruction of which it is the agent.

The seizure of Russia by the Reds was the beginning of its terrible and octopus-like reaching-out all over the world. Its

doctrines, its methods and its avowed purposes are utterly antipathetic to everything that Christian morality and civilization has stood for. It is the living embodiment of hypocrisy. Its agents shout for freedom - freedom of speech, freedom of religion, etc. Yet it has ruthlessly destroyed the freedom of everything. Where Communism prevails, freedom of press and speech have ceased to exist. Its appalling efforts to destroy religious freedom have shocked the Christian world. The destruction of ancient places of worship, the stilling forever of noble chimes that for more than a thousand years had tolled in historic Russian towers, were acts of ~~such~~ unspeakable sacrilege that Attila and his Huns would not have been guilty of.

It is the foster-parent of international pacifist and peace societies, which loudly and persistently demand the abolition of war, the abandonment of armies and navies; yet Soviet Russia has the largest and best-drilled army in the world today and its vast equipment of tanks and tractors for war uses make its peace propaganda ridiculous.

It is the avowed enemy of capitalism: yet it is itself a capitalist with resources and ramifications so vast that no exact measure of them is possible.

Its trading corporations or "torgs" are established in every country. They act as headquarters for the Soviet and it is through them that subversive propaganda is spread and active warfare is carried on against the government whose

protection and hospitality they enjoy.

The heads and officers of these torgs are personalities so vague that their identities are almost unknown. One of the strangest powers of Red Russia is its ability to shroud the personalities of its agents in unfathomable mystery. We know that the Soviet trading corporation in England was long the shelter of injurious propaganda which became so serious and so dangerous that the indignant English government finally charged the Soviet with conducting what amounted to warfare against what was supposed to be a friendly government, yet I do not believe that one person in ten thousand could name the head of that dubious corporation or any member or official connected with it, so successfully were their names and identities kept in the background, while their activities were attracting the notice of the world.

The Russian Soviet has no legation or consulate in this country and the office in New York City of the Amtorg(American Trading ~~Corporation~~ Organization) are regarded as the official headquarters of the Russian Soviet in America. It is in front of this company's offices that anti-Red protest demonstrations are held,

A great volume of business is transacted through the offices of this organization, including activities mysterious to the ordinary observer, such as the importation of huge quantities of anti-pyrine and ergot of rye for wholesale manufacturers of drugs. Though of international importance, the same vagueness applies

to the personal identity of its officers and members. Who has ever heard the name of its president? Does he ever write articles for the newspapers, give interviews, address public gatherings? Is he known socially? Has his picture ever been seen in a magazine or paper?

The names of the officials are ordinary-sounding enough, George, Thomas, Smith, Roberts. Yet Roberts, Smith, etc. are unable to speak English and transact business through an interpreter.

One of the largest and strongest financial institutions in the country is the depository of the funds of the Amtorg and disburses vast sums of money on the Amtorg's order.

How are these sums spent? How are they invested? What profits by these disbursements?

Russian sympathizers give as their sole argument the plea that Russia purchases commodities here and for the sake of this business we ought to endure her pernicious activities in this country.

Can this nation or any other nation, for the sake of trade, permit another nation, which is already loaded with crime, to make war upon us on our own soil? Can our government continue to have the respect and confidence of the American people, if, for business reasons it is willing to allow organized mobs to be called out in all parts of the country, at the will of a foreign power, to demonstrate their growing strength, their hatred of everything we revere and their threat against the institutions of our government? Can we permit them to

operate against the children and youth of this country as they now are doing through the schools. These misdeeds are not the work of individuals but of a highly-organized dangerous and venomous power established here and increasing in every way the unseen bonds it is weaving around our institutions. Why should we endure this? What trade can be worth it? What is to be the price later of breaking these bonds and can we be sure that we can break them? Have we a right to continue building towers and pinnacles upon our national structure of success and achievement while deadly forces are at work undermining the foundations?

RGH:KP
61-5351-20

May 10, 1930

31043

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LUHRING.

There is transmitted herewith, for your information, photostatic copy of a letter dated May 2, 1930, together with copy of the inclosure, received in the Bureau, from [redacted]

[redacted] having reference to the Amtorg Trading Corporation.

Very truly yours,

Director.

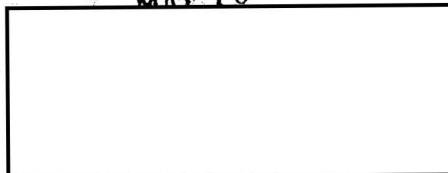
Incl. #454944.



RGH:KP
61-5381-40

May 10, 1930

RECORDED MAY 13 1930



b7D

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 2, 1930, together with inclosure, having reference to the Amtorg Trading Corp. The Bureau has noted the contents thereof.

I wish to thank you for your interest in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Director.

COPIES BY
MAY 14 1930

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ENCLOSURE

TFB:KP

May 15, 1930.

61-5381-22

~~CONFIDENTIAL.~~

201930

Mr. Robert F. Kelley,
Chief, Division of Eastern European Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kelley:

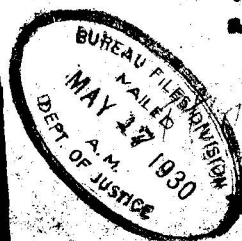
I am in receipt of information from a strictly confidential source, referring to the recent publication in the New York newspapers of what purport to be Russian soviet documents in the possession of Commissioner of Police Whalen, of New York City. A photostatic copy of the clipping on which the referred to documents appear is inclosed. The source of my information believes that the documents are not authentic, and points out various portions of the documents which he believes demonstrate their spurious character.

Document #1 reads in translation, "Executive Committees Komintern and Profintern". The document should read, "Executive Committee, Komintern, and Executive Bureau, Profintern". The Profintern has no Executive Committee. Document #1 also contains an abbreviation "C.M.C.A." (the abbreviation for the United States of North America). The Russian manner of writing the abbreviation would be "C.A.C.M.". On each document there is indicated a code word, which, I am informed, is a thing never done by the Communist International. On Document #4 there is marked a passage reading in translation, "The money should be spent by American Committee C.P.". Any reference by the Communist International, or the Soviet Government, to the Communist Party in this country is always to "Central (or Executive) Committee, Communist Party, U. S. ".

I am informed that Bourgin of Antorg has said that if the Government can be induced to investigate these documents the Government will be compelled to publicly admit that the documents are spurious, and that if in the future some authentic documents which compromise the Soviet Government become public, the claim can then be made by the Communists that these documents are also spurious.

Very truly yours,

Director.



Encl. #454875

Report

May 4, 1930
New York

In regard to the Soviet documents
given to the Press by the N.Y. Police
Commissioner Whalen

As a rule I try to refrain to report on matters published by the press in advance, according to instructions I had some time ago. But I think in this case it will be of a certain interest, because of the statement of Mr. Whalen: - that he was working hand in hand on this case with Federal authorities; and also of the published demand by the head of the Amstrong-Bogdanov - that he asks the Federal authorities to conduct an investigation in the matter of the documents.

RECORDED & INDEXED
MAY 20 1930

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 19 1930	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Div. Four	FILE

There is no doubt by me that these documents are not authentic.

I studied this document carefully and find out:

document (marked by me) #1 -

From the very first line where it states (in Russian) marked "a" - "Executive Committees Komintern and Profintern".

If this would be written by ~~the~~ the organization it ^{was} supposed to be written it would read -

"Executive Committee Komintern and Executive Bureau Profintern." The

Profintern (Red International Labor Unions) has no Executive Committee, and the document would be written accordingly. Only persons that do not know such details could make a mistake of this kind and no responsible party member (and this document is on stationery of the Ex. Com. of the Communist

International) could possibly write in such a form.

In the same document marked "13" in capital letters it reads - U.S.N.A. - which means - United States North America. This is almost a true translation from English. In Russian - in all the correspondence I saw, ^{and} as far as I know, all the Russian newspapers in Russia, and other printed matter where U.S.A. is used it is written:

C. A. C. U. (in the document: C. U. C. A.) a true translation would read: North Americans United States. (N.A.U.S.)

Document #2 (and on every one of the 4 documents) on the side - marked by me "a" there is a word "Code" the same pronunciation but in Russian letters. as far

as I know in Russian Party circles
the word Code is known as "Sheefr"
and a party member (Russian) would
not write Code. Another thing ^(same) - ~~Murray~~
"01" on the document (and all other 4)
the Ex. Com. of the Comintern states
its code - a thing that is never done
by the Communist International.

on document #1 the code is "Mengrff"
on document #2 ————— Membro
on document #3 ————— Membor
on document #4 (looks like) — Membor

#1 is marked Jan 3, 1930 - mengrff
#2 ————— Dec. 20, 1929 - membro
#3 ————— Jan. 7, 1930 - membor
#4 ————— Dec. 16, 1929 - membor

Document #2 - mark "13" there is a
word Borisom - which means Boris - in
Russian it should be marked: B which
is a B. But it is marked 13 an English
letter, which would read in Russia Vorisom

Document #2 - marked "a" C4a - which means the true translation of USA - United States America. If it would be written by ~~the~~ a member of the Communist International it would positively be written in Russian in the form that it would ~~read~~ ^{read}:

North Americans United States and it would mean U.S.A.

This ~~are~~ just details that attracted me.

In document #4 - marked "a" it reads: "The money should be spent by (true translation) American Committee C.P. never will any one, connected with the Communist International, who writes instructions in the name of the and on the Stationary of the Ex. Comm. of the Comintern, write

6

American Committee Communist
Party. That person would write,
and it is always written - Central
(or Executive) Committee Communist
Party U.S.

as I stated above this are just
details. In general:- only persons
that do not know the work of the
Communist International could
make up documents where the ~~Ex~~
Ex. Com. of the Communist Interna-
tional sends such important instruc-
tion on its stationery in plain
Russian words, giving in plain lettering
important names such as Boris Sviridov
and others, writing to a Polpred-meaning
diplomatic representative of the
Soviet Government - document #2-
marked 'C' - and telling him

7
: ~~that~~ in plain words that "a list
of workers" will be sent to him - and
as far as it is known there is no
"Polpred" in the U.S.!

I was sure from the very first on
looking over this documents that some
thing is wrong about them, but I
refrained to comment any thing
until I had a talk to day
with Bourgeois of the Amatory and
he said:

"The publication of these documents
is a wonderful thing. The documents
are, as we think, manufactured by
some white guards and if we will
only succeed to make the officials
investigate these documents they will
be compelled to state publicly that

they are a fake and this will
give the government (Soviet) another
chance to show that certain characters
are working all over ^{the world} against it, and
if there will ever be real documents
that could really compromise our
commercial work - no body will ever
believe it."



P.S. I enclose a newspaper clipping
with the reproduction of this documents
in the Russian Language.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO
AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

FXO'D/B

Post Office Box 251
Grand Central Station
New York, N. Y.

May 31, 1930

Director
Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir

Enclosed find copy of letter received by me from the United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, concerning a recent raid conducted at the offices of the Amtorg (Amtor incorrectly in the U.S. Attorney's letter) Trading Corporation, 261 Fifth Avenue, which is self-explanatory.

Also enclosed find copy of my letter in answer to same.

In view of the character of this inquiry, I am referring the matter to you for such instructions as you may deem warranted in contemplation of the preparation of an appropriate, and possibly complete, answer to the Attorney's inquiry.

Awaiting your advice in the premises, I am,

Very truly yours,

C. D. McKean

C. D. McKean,
Special Agent in Charge

*2nd copy
7/3
5/11/30*

6/1/30

61-5381-22	
JUN 2 330 A.M.	
RECEIVED	FILED

m

FXO'D/S

Post Office Box 251
Grand Central Station
New York, N. Y.

May 31, 1930

United States Attorney
Old Post Office and Federal Courts Bldg.
Park Row
New York, N.Y.

Attention: Frank Catinella, Asst. U.S. Atty.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of May 20, 1930, concerning the
Anton Trading Corporation of 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, I am
without any official information concerning the seizure of certain
papers of said Company, as described by you.

As no doubt you are aware the local newspapers within
the recent few weeks carried full accounts of the seizure in
question which, as far as I recall, was engineered by the New York
Police Department. Undoubtedly a letter of inquiry on your part,
addressed to said Police Department would be productive of the
information you desire. In the meantime, however, I am referring
your present letter to the Bureau at Washington to see if by chance
any information is there available which would be helpful to you in
the present instance. Upon receipt of advice from the Bureau, I
will again communicate with you.

Very truly yours,

C. D. McKean,
Special Agent in Charge.

CC - Bureau

61-5381-23

GAA:FRB

61-5381-23

June 2, 1930.

TELEPHONE

Mr. C. D. McKean,
P. O. Box 251,
Grand Central Station,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of May 31, transmitting a copy of a letter from the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, in regard to the alleged seizure of certain papers of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, has been received.

You should advise the United States Attorney that your office has made no investigation and has no information which would probably be of interest to him. No complaint has been received by the Bureau that a violation of any Federal statute has occurred and no investigation made in connection with this matter.

Very truly yours,

Director.

BUREAU FILES DIVISION
JUN 3 1930

O'D:R
62-2690

Post Office Box #251
Grand Central Station
New York City.

June 14, 1930.

Mr. Charles H. Tuttle
United States Attorney
Old Post Office Bldg.
New York City.

Attention - Mr. Catinella

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my letter to you bearing date of May 31, 1930 in which I informed you that I was directing your inquiry concerning the Amtorg Trading Corporation to the Bureau at Washington for further advice concerning same.

I beg now to inform you that a reply has been received from the Bureau advising that it is unable to supply any additional data which would be of help to you at this time. As a matter of fact as no investigation has been made by this office of the corporation in question, no official record concerning same is available. The Bureau advised that no complaint involving a violation of any Federal statute on the part of the Amtorg Corporation has been received upon which investigation might have been predicated.

Regretting my inability to be of service in the present instance, I am

Very truly yours,

C. D. McKEAN
Special Agent in Charge

Bureau

61-5381
JUN 17 1930
L.H. McKEAN

RM:KP

61-5381-25

June 14, 1930

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUN 26 1930

Mr. Robert F. Kelley,
Chief, Division of Eastern European Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kelley:

I am in receipt of information from a strictly ~~confidential~~ source that according to Borisoff, editor of a Russian Communist newspaper, at a joint meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States and representatives of the Amtorg Trading Corp., it was decided to close all the archives of secret instructions and recommendations of any sources, and replace all of this material with merely official communications of a harmless character, prepared in such form as to be ready for presentation to the proposed Congressional Committee, which is to inquire into Communist activities in the United States. All of the Russian agencies are to receive immediate instructions from the Amtorg Committee to surrender to the Committee all papers or communications from Russia or any other sources, which carry any kind of information of incriminating character. The Central Committee of the Communist Party is sending out the same kind of instructions to all of its organizations and agents throughout the country. The New York organizations are already engaged in destroying and numerically replacing secret documents with documents of a harmless character. Such documents as cannot be destroyed will be concealed in order that no officials will be able to obtain possession of them.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States, according to Borisoff, is also preparing its full machinery, in order that it may carry on its work in secret in the event its present activities are prohibited. However, the Central Committee is prepared to contest any efforts to interfere with its present program. The Central Committee is also preparing a special list of its membership, and in case that Committee is called upon to furnish names of its members to the Congressional investigating committee, the Congressional committee will be unable to identify any of the names furnished.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Report

31036

May 20, 1930

New York

Communist Party U.S. and Soviet Agencies

RECORDED

JUN 20 1930

According to Borisoff, editor of the
Russian Communist newspaper, at a joint
meeting of the C. C. of the Comm. Party
U.S. and representatives of the Comintern,
during which it was decided to close all
the archives of secret instructions and
recommendations of any sources and replace
all this with just official communications
of a naive character in such a form,
as to be prepared for the Congressional
investigation of Communist activities.
All the Russian agencies are to receive
immediately instructions from the Comintern
Committee to surrender to this Committee
all and every paper or communication
from Russia or any other sources that
carry any kind of information or

matter of ~~discrimination~~ character.
The C. C. of the C. P. ³¹⁰³⁷ is sending out the
same kind of instructions to its all orga-
nizations and agents in the country.

The Russian organizations are all ready
busy on destroying and numerically increas-
ing secret documents with documents of a legal
character. These documents that can-
not be destroyed will be hidden away
in such places, that no one will ever
be able to get them.

The C. C. of the Comm. Party U.S. is
also preparing its full machinery to
go to underground work, although the
C. C. will just wage a legal fight
before it will surrender.

The C. C. is also preparing a special
list of its membership and in case
they will have to give names of members.

-3-
To the congressional investigation
committee, the committee will never
be able to find out who is who. - Borisoff.



31038

b7D

SOVIET BIG BUYER OF AMERICAN GOODS FOR PLANTS, FARMS

New York Agent Thinks More
Would Be Bought in U. S.
With More Credit.

CONSUMPTION OF GOODS IS HEALTHY TRADE SIGN

Banker Expects Present Business
Ills to Be Ironed Out Before
Many Months.

BY JOHN F. SINCLAIR.

The Soviet Republic is one government that does not recognize hard times, at least not officially.

Peter A. Bogdanov, chairman of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, passing on purchasing contracts for millions of agricultural and industrial machinery from the United States for use in Russia, is one of the busiest men in New York City.

High up in his Fifth avenue skyscraper office, this bewiskered Soviet representative spends his hours meeting some of the big business leaders, who hope to sell the Soviet representative more and still more millions of dollars' worth of American-made goods. It's just one conference after another—with Bogdanov.

After office hours, he rides horseback in the park, plays tennis and walks. By profession a civil engineer, his six months' sojourn in the United States already has impressed him with the immense drive and power of American life.

While England sold to the Soviet government approximately \$44,000,000 worth of goods in 1929, the bill of goods from the United States was about three times as much.

From the Soviet government standpoint, being chairman of the Amtorg Trading Corporation of New York is the most important "commercial" position a Soviet representative can fill, outside of the Soviet cabinet.

"Russia would buy even more from the United States," said Mr. Bogdanov, "if American banks were willing to extend more credit. But until that time we must be content to do less business than we otherwise could."

Expects Business Pickup.

Dr. W. Randolph Burgess, deputy governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, believes that improvement in the business activity may be expected before many months.

While the present depression is the most severe since 1921, Dr. Burgess does not believe that there is any clear evidence yet that the recession has come to an end.

"Two important facts may, however, be noted about the recession. First, that the actual decline in the volume of business activity is nothing like as severe as might be assumed from much of the public discussion. The decrease in business since May of last year has been about 12 per cent.

"The second important fact about the recession is that while production is considerably depressed, consumption is very little depressed."

Then this New York banker made this thoughtful statement:

"The continuation of the consumption of goods at a fairly even pace by 120,000,000 people requires a continual flow of goods from the wholesaler to the consumer and from the producer to the wholesaler, and this gives us assurance that just as in former times the economic maladjustments of this period will be ironed out before many months have elapsed."

Exactly! This is the crux of the whole matter. The prime element, however, as to just when consumption will catch up with overproduction—used in the popular sense—is all that stands in the way of saying just when business recovery will begin.

Canada Will Borrow.

Canada, one of the world's richest nations, with a per capita income near the very top, and with her latent resources almost untouched, will soon be a borrower in the New York market. A low rate of interest is certain.

Charles Stewart, Canadian minister of the interior, estimates that in 1927 the national wealth, exclusive of undeveloped natural resources, was a little more than \$27,500,000,000. Against that must be placed her national debt at a little less than \$2,250,000,000.

Canada's internal finances now are in excellent shape. For the last fiscal year the government's income amounted to \$447,000,000 and her outgo or expenses \$402,000,000, thus closing the year with a surplus of \$45,000,000.

Canada's field crop acreage in Western Canada increased over 8,000,000 acres during the last 10 years.

"No less impressive has been the advance of hydro-electric development, which in the last 10 years has had the effect of increasing Canada's total waterpower installation by roundly 3,000,000 horsepower," said Mr. Stewart. "Nor can her mining industry, producing over \$300,000,000 of new wealth annually, be ignored."

Canada's credit rating should be A A A.

The Sunday Star
June 29, 1930
(Washington, D.C.)

Hurt Movie Trade.

The "Tom Thumb" golf courses, in many cities, are having an adverse effect on Summer "movie" attendance.

Springing up like mushrooms all over the land (Los Angeles County has over 1,600 of them) many of them are reported to be costing money.

The tiny golf course, on a vacant city lot, costs from \$2,000 to \$10,000 to build. A charge of from 20 cents to 50 cents, depending upon the location, is made for one round of golf. It has caught the popular fancy. Some are reported to be earning as high as \$500 a day.

In California, the Fox West Coast Theaters have definitely decided to lay out a dozen of the courses in order to secure part of the trade.

Nothing, on the business side of amusements, has been accepted as eagerly as these miniature golf courses. Already there are over 25,000 operating now throughout the United States—and the Summer has only begun.

Easy Credit Losses.

Wroe Alderson, chain store specialist in the United States Department of Commerce, says that much of the commercial troubles of retail stores is due to "easy credit and bad debts" rather than "inexperience or chain store competition."

Mr. Alderson reports that of 416 stores studied, 30 of them were on the verge of bankruptcy directly due to "bad debts and easy credit." Only 2 of the 30 laid their troubles to "chain store competition."

The report of the Department of Commerce on the subject of chain store and its relation to business should throw plenty of light on merchandising subjects now more or less guessed at.

Credit, that dynamite of retail business will take on a new meaning, a new importance.

(Copyright, 1930.)

& INDEXED

61-5351-25A

CAVIAR PURCHASES TRACTORS IN U. S.

Soviet Exports Tons of Delicacy, Buying Machinery With Proceeds.

Caviar for America is one of the most recent products to be completely sovietized, according to reports from Moscow.

Preserved sturgeon eggs, popularly known as caviar, continue to be one of the most valuable products of the Soviet fisheries which have now been merged into one big, national, government controlled trust.

"The United States imported 300 tons of Russian caviar last year, for which Americans paid more than \$600,000,"

says a bulletin of the National Geographic Society.

"All of it was sold through the ~~importers~~ which is the Soviet government's trading corporation in New York City. The caviar trade has been pushed vigorously because the Soviet government needs that \$600,000 and much more money to pay for the tons of cotton, the tractors, the electrical machinery and other commodities which the government purchases in large quantities in the United States.

"Huge, sluggish sturgeon that are helping the U. S. S. R. to buy Southern cotton, inhabit the mouths of the Volga, the Caspian and the Black Seas and various other rivers running into these seas. They are the largest of fresh water fish. Authenticated, true, scientifically accepted fish stories from the Volga report that sturgeon have been caught that measure 25 feet in length and weighed 3,000 pounds!

"Only female sturgeon are highly valuable because it is the fish eggs which fishermen chiefly seek. Enormous quantities of roe are found in a single fish; the egg mass may account for one-third the entire weight.

Fish Egg Capital.

"To catch the fish the fishermen drive stakes and set their nets in the form of large weirs, like eel weirs on a big scale.

Bouncing bobbers warn the fisherman that sturgeon swimming up-river to spawn has entered his trap.

"Having made his catch the fisherman sails through the dismal reaches of the lower Volga to Astrakhan, the caviar capital. Practically all the caviar that comes to the United States is packed in this island city 72 feet below sea level. The Caspian Sea, into which the Volga drains, is 85 feet below sea level.

"Once the catch has been brought to the wharf the sturgeon is immediately cut open and the roe emptied into a sieve through which the eggs fall. The sturgeon eggs are submerged for a few minutes in a brine, which acts as a preservative, and then packed in barrels for shipment abroad. Bulk shipments are usually put up in small cans that decorate delicatessen shelves after the caviar arrives in New York.

"Sturgeon, like sharks, are very old fish in the history of the world. Their armored backs and sides make them a survival in the waters such as the armored, clumsy rhinoceros is on land. In place of scales the sturgeon has cartilaginous plates for a coat, some plates being capped with spikes. His mouth, like the shark's, is underslung, but, unlike the shark's, is toothless.

"Another product of the sturgeon is isinglass, which is the gelatinous wall

of the swimming bladder. Many fishes yield isinglass, but the best qualities come from sturgeon. Isinglass is used to clarify wines and beers, to make jellies, to give luster to silk, to add to Spanish licorice, lamp black and water to make an India ink; to make 'court plaster' and, when dissolved, in alcohol, to make a hard, durable glue used to cement diamonds and repair broken glass and pottery.

"Although caviar has been a prized and expensive table delicacy certainly as far back as the days of Shakespeare, who made Hamlet say, 'Twas caviar to the general,' wealthy America is not the chief importer of Astrakhan caviar. Greece annually surpasses the United States in her importations of the roe.

"The United States itself used to export caviar, but that was in the days when sturgeon were still plentiful in the Great Lakes and were found in considerable numbers in the rivers of the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. Overfishing has seriously depleted our sturgeon fishery.

"Caviar is but one item in the Soviet's extensive fisheries, which, although the nation is short on ice-free seacoasts, are estimated to be the third most valuable in the world. Russians used to consume large quantities of fish because of the numerous church fast

days. The Baltic is rich in fish, the White Sea and the Murman Coast are the home of cod, and many other fish in addition to seal herds, which are hunted annually; the numerous lakes yield their annual quota, the fishery resources of the Siberian rivers have been scarcely tapped, while the salmon streams of the Pacific Coast have not been exploited nearly as effectively nor as scientifically as the Alaskan salmon streams."

The Evening Star
June 30/30.
(Washington, D.C.)

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ENCLOSURE

RW:KP
61-5318

July 26, 1930

Mr. W. J. Morris,
7236 Manse Street,
Forest Hills, L.I., N.Y.

61-5321

Dear Sir:

In your letter dated May 30th you furnished certain information concerning the plans of the Communist Party to destroy, conceal, and falsify their records in order that such records might not come into the possession of the Congressional Committee which is now engaged in making an inquiry into Communist activities in this country. Please furnish me with any further information which you might have concerning the activities of the Communist Party and its associated organizations along these lines.

Very truly yours,

L

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 28 1930 A M
RECEIVED

SPECIAL BULLETIN

BETTER AMERICA FEDERATION

724 South Spring Street

July 3, 1930

Los Angeles, California

AMTORG

An Analysis of Moscow's Most Interesting American Outpost

By LeRoy F. Smith

Div. Four

FOREWORD

From time to time for several years, our Information Service has been called on to furnish data concerning AMTORG to interested firms and individuals.

At the present time, this clever tentacle of the Third International is making Herculean efforts to influence American investors to place their chips on the Soviet roulette wheel. On that account, we are receiving an increased number of inquiries for information; and therefore, we issue this Special Bulletin upon AMTORG.

This interesting characteristic should be borne constantly in mind, during the next few weeks, when the Government of the United States, through various of its agencies, is to be engaged in a very thorough probe of Communist operations in the United States: -

One of the constant and clever specialties of the Bolshevik organization, in the United States and equally in every other land, is their indulgence in fast-talking and specious Protestations of Injured Innocence.

He who swallows whole their oily alibis, is the logical descendant of the gullible yokel who in early circus days was wont to place his hard-earned green backs on a little green pea hidden under three little brown nuts.

The analysis herewith is not written for the benefit of such folks: we lay no claims to prowess in psycho-therapy nor do we desire to invade the proper function of the institutions for the Feeble-Minded.

We have not told all we know about AMTORG - principally because we have no facilities for publishing large volumes. Interested readers may have access to much information for which we have no space in this brief analysis.

(Marked passages incorporated in progressive memorandum on Radical Elements in the United States.)

What is AMTORG?

1. What is AMTORG? AMTORG, which is the abbreviation of "American Trading Organization," is the business office in the United States of the United Socialist Soviet Republics, which is the name by which the Communist dictatorship of Soviet Russia styles itself.

Now, the United Socialist Soviet Republics is different from all other existing government in several very interesting particulars, among them the following:

a. All business dealings which any firm or individual in the world has with the land of Russia are, so far as Russia is concerned, official governmental transactions. You cannot sell a single bolt in all Russia except to, or by the express agreement of, the Soviet Government. A cursory study of AMTORG and of the institution of which it is the official agent, will, of course, familiarize the student with the Soviet theory and practice.

b. AMTORG is the sole representative in the United States of the "Gostorg," the State Export and Import Bureau of the Soviet Republic. It is the purchasing agent of the Soviet Government. (See "The Nation," of September 9, 1925, Page 266).

c. AMTORG is the sole representative in the United States of "ARCOS," LTD. London, which is the Soviet Government's British trading post. This connection of AMTORG with ARCOS is interesting. The revolutionary, seditious documents seized literally by the ton by the British Government in its raid of the ARCOS headquarters in May, 1927, were of such an overwhelmingly treasonable character as to cause the British Government to recall its Moscow ambassador, to send the Bolshevik London ambassador home, and to sever diplomatic relations with the Communist government.

d. The personnel, policy, and program of AMTORG are governed with most rigid military dictatorship by the Soviet Government from the home office of AMTORG, which is at KUZNETZKY MOST, 14, MOSCOW.

(NOTE: The above statements, b, c, and d, may be checked easily by reference to any AMTORG advertisement. The one before me is on page 493 of "The Nation" of November 10, 1926; recent ads conform.)

e. In addition to the official Soviet financiers and executives detailed by the Soviet Government to duty in AMTORG, said Soviet Government also details for duty in AMTORG skillful agents of the G.P.U. or Soviet Political Police (popularly called the "Cheka".) These Soviet secret service men have a two-fold job: to spy on AMTORG officials and employees, and to maintain liaison with the official United States branch of the Third International, which is under absolute command of Moscow, even to its name, recently changed by orders from Moscow, to "The Communist Party U.S.A., Branch of the Third International!" (See "Daily Worker" in March, 1929.)

For a very illuminating picture of the many Soviet organizations in this and other foreign countries, please recall the interview on January 30, 1930 of foreign correspondents of American newspapers with George Bessedowsky in Paris. Bessedowsky ran afoul of the Soviet Cheka in France. He unveiled the story of

intrigue in the United States with AMTORG figuring as the concentration point of all revolutionary activities. Bessedowsky showed the connection between the Russian Red Cross of New York City and AMTORG, and showed also that the Russian Red Cross was being used as the "camouflage" Soviet Cheka. (Ref. A.V.I.F., May 13, 1930)

"Confidential reports have kept us advised from time to time of official cablegrams from the Communist International coming to the officials of the Communist Party of the United States of America through the AMTORG Trading Corporation!" (Ref. A.V.I.F. May 13, 1930.)

Further, and this is very important:

"AMTORG is financing and controls the edition of all the newspapers and journals in the United States published under the banner of the American Communist Party, especially the Jewish 'Freiheit,' and 'Hammer', the English 'Daily Worker' and the Russian 'Novy Mir'. The Russian newspaper 'Novy Mir' was even printed in the AMTORG office, but after the Scotland Yard raid on ARCOS in London, the AMTORG became afraid that the same thing would happen there; then they closed the edition of that newspaper, and all the employees remained to work in AMTORG." (Cf. Sketch by Eugene Miller, "Bolshevist Paradise" from A.V.I.F. files.)

We have thus established AMTORG as a closely controlled official agency in the United States of the Soviet Government.

We have shown the peculiar character of AMTORG, in that it differs from all other business or financial agencies in the fact that its controlling head is a Government, and that that government is builded upon the premise that all business is the government's business.

We have shown that that Government, in conformance with its philosophy, exercises a rigorous, constant and thorough espionage upon the American agency AMTORG.

Moscow's American Branch.

2. Now let us look for a moment at another of Moscow's organizations in the United States: The Communist Party of America Branch of the Third International.

It is possible that you may make an objection here. It is possible that you may say, "Why, we are discussing AMTORG, and not an American Political Party!" But of course no intelligent man can study Communist affairs without discovering that there is just one Communism in all the world, and that its members are more closely coordinated than the fingers of one's hand.

Again to the Communist Party. As you should not need to be told, it is one of 59 national branches of the Third International of Moscow. What is the Third International? Well, the World-Communist movement is organized in a very interesting fashion, with three super-organizations. One of these is the supreme head, the other two are its equal subordinates. The supreme head of World-Communism is the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R! The inner circle of the C.P.U.S.S.R. is a group of 9 men forming the Polit-Buru (Political Bureau). This inner circle rules the two ancillary organizations - and they are The Soviet Government and The Third International! (Ref. Official Soviet graph for the Bolshevisation of Asia, as published in B.A.F. Bulletin of January 11, 1929.)

All of the nine members of the Polit-Buru are high officials of the Soviet Government, and all are high officials of the Third International.

To you who have studied Communism of course the above facts are not

unknown. If you still doubt an organization recognized even by the Soviets as a capable and authentic investigator, then may we refer you to the current (1930) issue of "The Political Handbook of the World" published by Yale University.

Now then, just a word about Communism's philosophy. The essence, the fundamental thesis, the consistent preaching, the constant practice, the never-dimming dream, and the eternal planning of Communism is - WORLD COMMUNISM. It is unnecessary to mention this fact to any man who has studied Communism for a year and a half, or an hour and a half. I do not remember to have ever read a Communist writing of any length that did not give prominence to that doctrine; I have never attended a Communist meeting where it was not the life of the party.

Now then: The Communist "Daily Worker," the official mouthpiece of the U.S. Branch of the movement, is a constant, consistent medium for the dissemination of AMTORG information to the Reds in the United States, and has been such from the day that AMTORG was born.

I have before me files of the "Daily Worker" back to 1925, and find in them, among others, interesting official data such as the following:

AMTORG'S operations against Secretary of State Kellogg;

AMTORG'S Board of Directors election of new officers;

Return to U.S.A. from Moscow of AMTORG'S President with new plans for operations;

Visit of chairman of Soviet Government Grain Department to U.S.A. and conference with AMTORG;

Speeches of AMTORG representatives to wool men of U.S. Northwest;

Visit of South American Red leader and of the President of AMTORG to Chicago together; and so on, day after day, year after year.

There is the closest friendship, closest news reporting, closest business, social and political liaison between AMTORG and the Red leaders of the United States.

The Blackstone Hotel Meeting.

By the way, let me refer to a recent meeting staged by AMTORG in Chicago, under the auspices of "The American-Russian Chamber of Commerce," one of AMTORG'S rootlets. It was held at noon, on Wednesday, April 23, 1930, in no less pretentious place than the Blackstone Hotel. Not less than three-score of reputable American firms were represented. The speakers table was flanked at both ends by two Soviet "old reliables," namely A. W. Schuster of the AMTORG Trading Corporation, and Alexander Gumberg, former clever secretary and interpreter to "Colonel" Raymond Robins, who led the American Red Cross Expedition in the Soviet Union in 1917-18. This redoubtable Gumberg is a brother of Zorin, editor of the Leningrad "Pravda," one of Lenin's most trusted lieutenants. At the Press table, Mr. Mendelson of AMTORG was observed cleverly "priming the correspondents with propaganda, printed matter, and "oral instructions". One of the "helpful" books given to each correspondent and reporter was one recently published entitled "Soviet Economic Development and American Business"; and its author is Saul G. Brom, at present in charge of ARCOS in London.

Time and space prevent reporting here the full story of that interesting meeting. Suffice it to say that categorical misstatements of fact, glozing over of economic and financial data, and glowing "Pollyanna" prophecies characterized the addresses by a couple of American business men who see a dollar in the offing and promptly get moral strabismus.

But please get this: it probable escaped the notice of these "guests" at this AMTORG luncheon: On the very day this "Red-White" love feast was being staged by AMTORG in Chicago, "TASS," the Soviet Government's telegraph agency cabled thus to the Communist leaders in America:

"Let us make the World's technical skill serve our needs. . . . Each new success of the Soviet Union is a blow against the International bourgeoisie!"

(That means you. Whom did a Soviet leader mean when he said recently "We Communists know how to get things bought and paid for by others"?)

The T.U.U.L.

Now, we must briefly discuss still another U. S. Branch of the Moscow outfit. This is the "TUUL," or "Trade Union Unity League," reorganized from the former Trade Union Educational League last year in Cleveland, Ohio, by William Z. Foster, the head of the Communist Party of the U.S.A.

During the six months beginning January 1, 1930, and ending June 30, 1930, the Trade Union Unity League has received to be expended within those two dates, one million two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$1,225,000.00) from Moscow, via the financial concern which is one of AMTORG'S pocketbooks in the United States.

This money was specifically stipulated to be spent for Communist organization and propaganda! The first consignment came to the TUUL in Cleveland, Ohio, in February, 1930; but the plans for it were made several months before, and in part by certain Moscow officials who were in conference in AMTORG'S New York offices!

Boring Within Labor

AMTORG'S interest is not merely in selling goods to Americans and in buying goods from Americans. As long as three years ago, or in June, 1927, the Communist forces in New York, which are as close to AMTORG hourly as you are to your family were rather boldly carrying on a guerrilla warfare in the A.F. of L. to get control of the Fur Workers Organizations. The operations were conducted by Ben Gold, "The Moscow 'straw boss'", and Moscow's inroads into these crafts were exposed and Edward J. Grady, a valiant chieftain of the A.F. of L., conducted a happily fairly successful war against the Moscow agents. Why the Furriers organizations? Let Grady answer that question: "Because nearly all of the furs come from Russia, and they come through AMTORG, the Soviet Trading Organization!"

For a clear account of this rascally attempt by this Moscow outfit to lead American labor by the nose, read the editorial of the Editor of the International Labor News Service, Mr. Chester W. Wright, as published in many papers, among these the "American Constitution" of June 15, 1927.

Or, if that be not enough, read the article by George Garner on page 69 of the "Manufacturers Record" of May 13, 1926:

6. ✓

"1. Russia is working aggressively to develop American trade and credits to a point which she hopes will virtually compel recognition of the Soviet Government by the Government of the United States."

"2. American industry and business are extending generous credits to Russia in indicated confidence that such recognition will, in reasonable time, be granted, almost through economic compulsion."

"The first of these disclosures was made to me in conversation with J. P. Nikonow of the technical department of AMTORG Trading Corporation of New York City."

"We want recognition by the United States in order to facilitate American credits," said Mr. Nikonow.

"Conversely, Russia is getting American credits in order to facilitate American recognition - although Mr. Nikonow did not go that far in his statement."

"Although unobtrusive almost to the point of secretiveness, the Russians at the convention were very, very busy. 'We have made many valuable contacts and interested a large amount of business,' Mr. Nikonow told me."

"First explaining to me that the AMTORG Trading Corporation is a Russian buying and selling agency, representing the Soviet Government and 'about 700 Private concerns,' Mr. Nikonow gave me a statement, which continued:

"The AMTORG Trading Corporation of New York, established in May, 1924, has grown to be one of the largest agencies of trade between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, etc."

"We are greatly pleased to mention that the American manufacturers - at least, a number of some of the most important firms - begin to realize the above facts!"

"No more insidious and convincing propaganda for recognition could well have been devised. The bait of great, profitable trade with Russia is dangled before the eyes of American business, and business is nibbling at it with such eagerness that in time Uncle Sam may swallow it and the hook to which it is attached."

"According to Mr. Nikonow, 'the AMTORG,' as he calls his company, represents the Soviet Government and 'about 700 private concerns.' According to the Commercial Handbook of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Soviet Government is directly, financially interested in a large number of these concerns - an interest, in each, running 'generally for 50 per cent.' Says the Handbook:

"'Foreign trade is a Government monopoly, controlled through the Commissariat for Trade and Commerce. Trade is conducted by agencies of the Commissariat. (and) by a few mixed companies, operating under license, in which the Government holds a participating interest (generally 50 per cent), and by a few foreign firms operating under special agreements. The mixed companies and the foreign firms usually have a special limited scope.'"

The Sham Uncovered

One's judgment is never better than his information. No appraisal of AMTORG can be authentic or safe without the consideration of the following facts, which

are part of the authenticated report of a man who for many years enjoyed the inner confidence of the Third International:

"As an American corporation, AMTORG is a sham. The capital stock was paid for by the Soviet Government and only tried and true Communists can hold the high positions since it is necessary under the law that shares of stock be in their names.

"The Political Bureau in Moscow insists that each director before he leaves Moscow sign notes double the amount of his stock holdings.

"In order to get the indispensable visa, these directors are described as envoys of this or that Soviet organization, intrusted with the purchase of enormous quantities of American products. In my case, I shamelessly pretended that the 'Gostorg,' another Soviet agency, had delegated me to purchase 10,000 American tractors. Upon arrival in New York I was to subscribe to \$1,000,000 worth of AMTORG stock and thus have my visa extended.

"Pianitzky, one of the members of the Komintern (executive committee of the Third International), told me that the Komintern's work in America was hampered by the impossibility of creating a powerful Communist party. Moscow had sent orders and plenty of money, but the masses did not rise.

"The unemployed are not reached by our propaganda, though our subsidies amount to \$100,000 a year', Pianitzky said, 'The Profintern (Red labor union International) sends a further \$25,000 to the League for Syndicalist Propaganda'.

"Therefore the Komintern has decided to send two energetic delegates to the United States to manage the party and the league both. Both are Germans so if they are discovered Moscow cannot be accused of fomenting disorder. Their names are Wagner and Neumann. If necessary, you could give these two comrades advances out of the AMTORG funds, up to a maximum of \$10,000, and Berlin will reimburse you.'

"I also had a conference with Berzin, chief of the military espionage. He explained that there were two illegal organizations at work in America, with New York for headquarters. Their objects were technical espionage - military and naval. The head of both organizations carried a Polish passport and was one of the best Soviet spies. His ostensible occupation was the importation on a small scale of medicinal herbs, particularly licorice. He might in that capacity come to the AMTORG offices from time to time.

"Finally, I had an interview with Trillisser, chief of the foreign section of the G.P.U. (Secret Police). The G.P.U., it seemed, could not get anywhere in the United States because it hadn't enough money, so its activities were practically limited to keeping an eye on the AMTORG. The head of the G.P.U. in the United States was a certain Gordon, though I am not sure whether he used that name in America. Ostensibly he was a clerk at the AMTORG.

"There is some talk today of sending another G.P.U. man to America to look after the delicate question of the transmission of reports. The man selected is Dr. Scheftel, who could travel as delegate of the Soviet Red Cross."

(Cf. Photostat #10 AMTORG File, B.A.F.)

Now let me quote from a statement made by representative Hamilton Fish, Jr., of New York City, in the House of Representatives, on May 22, 1930:

"There is one thing you can say about the communists which does not apply equally to the Democrats or the Republicans in this country. The communists adhere strictly to their platform and their platform is, world revolution, the destruction of capitalism, and the promotion of atheism and class hatred. The communists in America are just the same as the communists all over the world. They take their orders directly from the Third International, with headquarters at Moscow."

(Cf. Congress Investigation File, Galley Proof #35,048).

Communism's Aid Societies in America

One last notation. A very typical and a very influential American advocate of United States recognition of the Communist dictatorship may be used as a sample of his sort. I refer to Colonel Hugh M. Cooper, a hydro-electrical engineer who has long been one of the foremost propagandists for recognition of Soviet Russia.

On May 16, 1928, Col. Cooper made an address before the Credit Association of the Building Trades of New York on "The Russian Situation." Among other things in this report, the bland Col. Cooper said that Premier Rykoff told him that the "Russian" (Soviet) Government, "was willing to withdraw its program of world revolution." How much reliance will the thoughtful person place upon the blindly trusting and personally financially interested pronouncements of Col. Cooper? Read on and decide for yourself. At the very moment when Premier Rykoff was pouring these bland assurances into the ears of Colonel Cooper, M. Rykoff, the elder Rykoff's nephew, was calling together in Cassel, Germany, a secret conference of one of the most important sub-commissions of the Communist International: THE COMMISSION CHARGED WITH DEVELOPING REVOLUTIONARY PROSPECTS IN FOREIGN ARMIES AND NAVIES!

Only four days prior to Col. Cooper's bland assurances to the New York business men, young Rykoff was delivering to the delegates of this treasonable commission, including the delegates from the United States, the orders of the elder Rykoff relative to the broadening and intensifying of the Soviet's activities within foreign armies and navies. Young Rykoff emphasized the instructions of Moscow that communists should continue working to organize a force that could be used in the event of disturbances breaking out in any corner of the world, and insisted on the Communist International's need for greater disturbances in the near future holding out the threat that without such results Moscow could not continue to support the communist movement in various countries (including the United States)!

(Cf. Conf. May 28, 1928 and A.V.I.F. May 29, 1928.)

Bukharin Tips His Hand.

In perfect concord with the above treasonable activity, is the report of May 18 of the same year which quotes Nikolai Bukharin, President of the Communist (Third) International in Moscow, as follows: "The Soviet Government can never be successful until there is a world revolution and it is the duty of the 'International' to arrange this as soon as possible." Bukharin made this statement before the Congress of the Young Communist International: then in session.

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It has been necessary to deal at some length with this AMTORG matter. You may be assured that, lengthy though this article is, we have but scratched the surface of the overwhelming mass of data concerning this organization. If it be possible that a truly patriotic citizen might, in light of the above facts, still be kindly disposed toward AMTORG, on the ground that AMTORG promises attractive economic returns, then there would seem to be little use for further argument. However, we do not believe that a patriotic citizen once apprized of the nefarious scheming of the Third International, and of all of its branches, against this republic will permit his interest in financial gain to weigh in the balance against his regard for the institutions of his country.

Honesty for Policy is not Safe Honesty.

And in the bare matter of monetary considerations he will know if he studies AMTORG and its parent that the organization which rests upon dishonesty, chicane, revolution, and destruction, will meet its obligations only so long as it deems it politically expedient to do so. The thoughtful American investigators of this phase of the matter are in accord with the following calm pronouncements from men who certainly may not be accused of being narrow-mindedly hostile to the Soviet Government since they are men who, on the contrary, are known to be, if anything, unduly lenient in their attitude toward Bolshevism:

Professor Arthur Fisher in his "Soviet Russia in the Second Decade" reports verbatim his interview with Adolph Joffe, the chief leader in the Soviet Concessions Committee, as follows: "Every concession whatever kind it may be is nevertheless of political importance." Then, going on with the account as reported by R. A. McReynolds in the "Shop Review" of April, 1930: -

"All chance of being recognized by the United States would be lost if the holders of concessions were treated like the peasants. But if the time comes when Russia no longer needs foreign loans or their machinery, we may expect that concessions would become scraps of paper."

Professor Fisher then continues:

". . . . Russia under the present regime has yet to establish a tradition of any very continuous or long-standing respect for obligations or any capacity to carry out political changes and economic growth in an orderly and peaceful fashion. The absence of such a record must be weighed as one of the risks to which foreign capital subjects itself on entering Russia."

Finally I quote a man notorious in America for his kindly attitude toward radicalism, including Communist radicalism; Oswald Garrison Villard, in which he points out that the great crime of the communists against civilization is their brazen denial of liberty. Reporting the statement made to him by a Communist in Russia that anti-Communists would not be allowed to publish their views in Russia, Villard says: - "The Russian leaders have made the grave mistake of identifying their new form of Government with a bloody despotism." "No one who has witnessed this Russian experiment and sensed its significance can remain unmoved by the human elements involved and by its dramatic quality. The deeper, therefore, the regret that the men who are doing these titanic things are savagely crushing their critics or opponents, are shooting, imprisoning, and exiling precisely as did the Czar."

(Ref. The Shop Review - April, 1930.)

10. AMTORG is a mainspring and reservoir in the United States of America for the ACTIVITIES, FALLACIES, AND MACHINATIONS OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL OF MOSCOW.

X

AN INTERESTING LIST OF COMMUNIST SUBSIDIARIES IN THE UNITED STATES

It is believed that it will be very helpful to the student of Communist intrigue to have at hand the following list of the principal activities and organizations working under the direction of Moscow in the United States at the present time. Few people realize that the principal activities of Communism are carried on through subsidiary or auxiliary organizations operating under non-Communist names. It is in these groups that the bulk of the Communist strength is to be found, amounting to approximately two million members. The principal organizations of Communism operating in most instances under non-Communist names organized by or controlled and officered by Communists are given in the following list - - recently compiled by the American Vigilant Intelligence Federation of Chicago, a cooperating organization of the Better America Federation:

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|---|---|
| 1. Workers International Relief. | 19. Young Communist League of America |
| 2. International Labor Defense. | 20. Young Pioneers of America. |
| 3. All-America Anti-Imperialist League. | 21. Russian Cooperative Ass'n. |
| 4. National Council for the Protection of Foreign Born Workers. | 22. Jewish Freiheit. |
| 5. American Negro Labor Congress. | 23. Bezbozhnik (Russian Godless Soc.) |
| 6. Anti-Fascisti League of North America. | 24. United Workers Cooperative Association(Camps Nitgedaiget) |
| 7. Anti-Horthy League. | 25. Russian Mutual Aid Society. |
| 8. United Farmers' Educational League. | 26. Hungarian Sick & Death Benefit Society. |
| 9. American Society for Cultural Relations with Russia. | 27. Independent Workmen's Circle. |
| 10. Friends of the Soviet Union. | 28. I.C.O.R. (Society for Colonizing Russia). |
| 11. Federated Press. | 29. Russian Reconstruction Farms. |
| 12. Labor Research Association. | 30. Proletarian Dramatic Ass'n of America. |
| 13. Labor Sports Union. | 31. AMTORG Trading Corporation. |
| 14. John Reed Club. | 32. Soviet Union Information Bureau. |
| 15. United Council of Working Class Housewives | |
| 16. United Council of Working Class Women. | |
| 17. Workers Library Publishers. | |
| 18. International Publishers. | |

33. TRADE UNION UNITY LEAGUE AND ITS SECTIONS:

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|--|---|
| (1) Agricultural Workers Industrial Union | (10) Needle Trades Workers Industrial League. |
| (2) Amalgamated Clothing Workers Industrial Union. | (11) Nat'l Auto Workers Industrial Union. |
| (3) Building Maintenance Workers Industrial Union. | (12) Lumber Workers Industrial Union. |
| (4) Cleaning and Laundry Workers Industrial Union. | (13) National Textile Workers Union. |
| (5) Food and Packing House Workers Industrial Union. | (14) Shoe Workers Industrial Union. |
| (6) Jewelry Workers Industrial Union. | (15) National Miners Union. |
| (7) National Metal Workers Industrial League. | (16) Rubber Workers Industrial Union. |
| (8) Marine Workers Industrial League. | (17) Painters Industrial Union. |
| (9) National Railroad Workers Industrial League. | (18) Furniture Workers Industrial Union. |
| | (19) Negro Section. |
| | (20) Women's Section. |
| | (21) Youth Section. |

RE:KP

August 7, 1930

61-5381-29

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NUGENT DODDS, ACTING HEAD, CRIMINAL DIVISION.

AUG 8 1930

Receipt is acknowledged of your memorandum of July 31, 1930, to which was attached a communication dated July 28, 1930, addressed to the Department by Lieutenant H. F. Breckel, U. S. N. R., concerning alleged activities on the part of the Amtorg Trading Corporation in the United States.

Very truly yours,

Director.

R

July 31, 1950.

Memorandum re telephone call from Mr. Dodge.

Mr. Dodge said Wilbur Forest, Herald Tribune, had called him regarding some recent article concerning the Amtorg case in New York and wanted to talk with Mr. Hoover about it. Mr. Hoover told Mr. Dodge that he did not know anything about our Agents working on it and that the U. S. Attorney in New York was the proper person to see.

MO'B.

5381

RECORDED - 100-100000

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RW:KP

August 7, 1930

~~Confidential~~ (U)

Mr. Robert F. Kelley,
Chief, Division of Eastern European Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kelley:

Information has been received from a strictly confidential source to the effect that the Amtorg officials are very much disturbed over the recent Congressional investigations and the unfavorable publicity which their organization is receiving in the United States. It is reported that one Yaxotleff, who is connected with the Amtorg, stated that in the event Amtorg has to discontinue its operations in the United States the plan of the Soviet government will be seriously disrupted, especially just at this time when the U. S. S. R. is attempting to carry out the "five year plan". It is reported that Bogdanoff, Chairman of the Amtorg, has stated that in the event the United States puts into effect embargos on Soviet merchandise, and the press continues its campaign against Amtorg, the American bankers and business-men will become frightened and will be afraid to continue their dealings with the Soviet government. Bogdanoff is alleged to have stated further that such a condition might cause a serious crisis in the Soviet Union, where the only hope of the government and the masses is concentrated on the "five year plan", and that without the help of the United States the "five year plan" will fail. Yaxotleff is alleged to have stated that the failure of the "five year plan" might mean a counter-revolution in many parts of the Soviet Union.

Very truly yours,

Director.

20 3 1930

AMTORG CALLED LINK IN FINANCING REDS

Papers of Ex-Soviet Agent, Read
at Inquiry, Show Plan of
Payment to Leaders Here.

LYONS URGES SUPPRESSION

Inspector Advises Outlawing of
All Reds—Fish Committee
Questions Negro Leaders.

How American Communists get money for their subversive work in the United States and the part played in these transactions by the Amtorg Trading Corporation, the Soviet commercial agency in this country, was told by witnesses yesterday before the Congressional committee investigating Communist activities.

With the Amtorg continuing to play the central part in the inquiry, further evidence purporting to show the direct contact between Moscow and American Communists was adduced when Inspector John A. Lyons, head of the radical bureau of the Police Department was recalled to the stand.

Hamilton Fish Jr., chairman of the committee, asked the inspector's views as to what ought to be done with the Communists as a party. Taking Mr. Fish's question as his cue, the inspector declared that the Communists should be suppressed entirely—outlawed.

"Do you think the Communists should be suppressed, outlawed as a party?" asked Mr. Fish.

Says Reds Represent Violence.

"I do," replied Inspector Lyons without hesitation. "Simply because they do not represent a political party, but organized violence directed toward the overthrow of the government."

Mr. Fish nodded his head approvingly.

Another witness who helped to cast light on how money reached American Communists from Moscow was John J. Leary Jr., labor editor of The New York World, who, after telling of Communist work in the needle trades, declared that American merchants holding contracts with the Soviet Government turn over money to Communist representatives here as payments to Moscow on these contracts. These represen-

tatives, he said, deduct various sums which go to aid Communist work here. One of the firms mentioned by Mr. Leary as making such payments was the Eitingen-Schild Corporation, of which Matty Eitengen is president, and which holds a \$30,000,000 fur concession from the Soviet Government.

A large part of yesterday's session was devoted to testimony on Communist activities among Negroes. The witnesses were Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Pullman Porters, Alderman Fred R. Moore and Dr. F. Ethelred Brown, a Negro clergyman of Harlem and a Socialist. Representative Bachman of West Virginia criticized Dr. Brown for being a Socialist but was cut short by other members of the committee as pursuing an irrelevant line of inquiry. The substance of the testimony of the Negro leaders was that Communism was making little, if any, inroads among the Negroes.

Reads Bessedovsky's Charges.

A feature of Inspector Lyons's testimony, was his reading into the record of revelations made recently by Gregory Bessedovsky, former Soviet Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo and in Paris, who, upon breaking with the Soviet Government, made charges concerning many of the secrets and inner workings of the Soviet régime, including the methods employed by the Communist International.

Part of Bessedovsky's revelations concerned Moscow's intrigues in America and the utilization of the Amtorg as a channel of Communist propaganda in the United States. Bessedovsky's revelations, Inspector Lyons told the committee, bear out the implications of the Amtorg documents made public by Grover A. Whalen, former Police Commissioner, who told the committee on Friday that the documents showing how Moscow is using the Amtorg as a channel of communication with Reds in this country were "genuine beyond doubt."

The papers have been denounced as forgeries by Peter A. Bogdanov, chief of the Amtorg, which on Tuesday will have an opportunity to refute the genuineness of the documents when its representatives appear before the committee. Tomorrow at Police Headquarters members of the committee may go into secret session with Inspector Lyons and undercover men who, Mr. Whalen said, obtained the documents from original Amtorg files. At this session, behind closed doors, Mr. Fish, his colleagues and the policemen will examine evidence dealing with the documents, the revelation of which, in detail, according to Mr. Whalen, would endanger the lives of the men responsible for its discovery and of their families.

Evidence bearing on the Amtorg documents, on the alleged existence in this country of a branch of the OGPU (Soviet secret police), and the revelations of Bessedovsky will be gone over. How far the New York police have been able to check up on the Bessedovsky revelations was not disclosed by Inspector Lyons, but the manner in which he read the Bessedovsky material into the record suggested that the police found therein confirmation of their own information.

Explains Financing by Moscow.

The substance of the Bessedovsky revelations, so far as the financing by Moscow of Communist propaganda here is concerned, was that such subsidies were transferred to the Amtorg for distribution to American Communists through the Soviet

agency in Berlin. These subsidies have increased in recent years, according to Bessedovsky. In addition to spending about \$100,000 a year on propaganda in the United States, Moscow has permitted the American Communist party, according to this information, to draw emergency funds through the Amtorg to the amount of \$10,000 a year. Furthermore, the Red Trade Union International, with headquarters in Moscow, contributes \$25,000 a year to propaganda in American trade unions. Bessedovsky revealed, while \$60,000 a year is being spent by the Soviet Government on its Ogpu branch in the United States. This money is being spent on espionage work, including work in the army and navy, he asserted.

One of the functions of the Ogpu in America, according to Bessedovsky, is to keep a close eye on the officials and employees of the Amtorg.

The amounts mentioned by Bessedovsky and the particular purposes for which they are intended were obtained by him, according to the statement read into the record by Inspector Lyons, from high Soviet officials and leaders of the Communist International at the time when Bessedovsky had been ordered to New York to take charge of the Amtorg, a commission he was unable to fulfill because the American Government refused to grant him a visa. Bessedovsky revealed that the Communist leaders in Russia were not satisfied with the accomplishments of the Communists in the United States, believing that Moscow was getting little in return for its money, as the Communists here seemed unable to make much headway either in the trade unions, among the general public or among the Negroes, who now appear to be one of the chief points of concentration of Communist efforts.

Leader Quoted on Work Here.

The information concerning Moscow's financial subsidies to American Communists, Bessedovsky revealed, was given to him in Moscow by Piatnitsky, a leader of the Comintern (Communist International). Piatnitsky complained, however, that "the results of our work in the United States are as yet negligible, due to the weakness of the American Communist party."

"The Comintern is receiving frequent reports from America and is issuing its orders how to use to advantage events in the United States," Bessedovsky quoted Piatnitsky as saying. "We know that our American comrades work under very difficult conditions. American workers are not used to being members of a separate proletarian party. Furthermore, the Communists are hindered in their work by the great hold which the American Federation of Labor has upon the workers. When our comrades point to all this, they are certainly right, but they forget that there are great numbers of discontented people in America. What about the 12,000,000 Negroes and the millions of unemployed and the dissatisfied farmers? It is among these that the revolutionary movement in the United States must begin, and not among the building trades, the machinists and the miners, who have been corrupted by the sops obtained for them from the capitalists first by Samuel Gompers and now by William Green."

"It is also necessary to utilize those millions of workers who have not yet become assimilated in the United States, who are working un-

der sweatshop conditions and represent a fertile field, therefore, for our propaganda. The Negroes are almost entirely outside of our influence, and yet the Negro question could play in the American revolution the same part which was played in the Russian revolution by the land problem. The unemployed also have not been used to sufficient advantage by our American comrades."

All this, according to Bessedovsky, was told him by Piatnitsky by way of guidance in Bessedovsky's work in the United States as the prospective chief of the Amtorg and secret head of Communist propaganda in this country.

Quotes Plan to Use Germans.

Continuing to quote Piatnitsky, Bessedovsky declared:

"The Comintern decided also to send to the United States two energetic comrades who should, on the spot, help direct the work of the party and the propaganda among the trade unions. They are Germans, so that in the event they are caught the American Government will not be able to accuse Moscow. You know the American Communist party is being financed by us through our Berlin agency, but I will ask you, in extreme cases, to lend them certain sums, not over \$10,000, from Amtorg funds. These sums will be later remitted from Berlin."

"After Piatnitsky I visited Bersin, the chief of the Soviet Military Intelligence Service," Bessedovsky reveals, speaking of himself. "From him I learned that two undercover organizations are working in the United States with headquarters in New York. The chief aim of these organizations is technical espionage and the gathering of information concerning the United States Army and Navy. One of the best Soviet spies by the name of Filin (pseudonym: Semion) is at the head of these organizations. For a long time he lived in the United States on a Polish passport and was a buyer of medical herbs, mainly licorice. This gave him an opportunity to visit the Amtorg for the ostensible purpose of arranging for shipments of licorice. There he would meet Moscow representatives who came to the United States to place orders for military supplies. They would tell Filin of their needs and would obtain from him valuable information which they would carry back to Moscow. Bersin did not have a high opinion of the American Intelligence Service. He boasted that valuable information was being smuggled out of the United States under the very noses of the police."

Tells of Ogpu Branch Here.

"I also visited Trilliser, head of the Foreign Department of the Ogpu," continued Bessedovsky, describing his preparations to come to the United States. "He explained to me that the work of the Ogpu in America was not extensive, mainly because it required large expenditures. The man who was instructed to supervise this branch of the work was Gordon. He is an important and trusted member of the Communist party. Officially he occupies the position of manager of one of the departments of the Amtorg. For the purpose of political espionage a small secret organization was created, headed by a Latvian, Alksnis, an important member of the G. P. U. Dr. Sheftel, who was slated to become chief of the Soviet Red Cross in America, was its work hand in

hand with this organization. Trilliser told me that \$60,000 was spent yearly on the G. P. U. in America."

Bessedovsky revealed that when the American Consulate in Riga refused him a visa the Amtorg protested to the authorities in Washington but to no avail.

Outlines Reds' War With Union.

Mr. Leary told of the war waged by the Communists for the capture of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union. He told of the visit paid by a certain Soviet representative in 1920 to Benjamin Schlesinger, president of the I. L. G. W. U., who presented to Mr. Schlesinger an ultimatum that he turn over the organization to the Communists. It was after Mr. Schlesinger's expulsion of this man from his office that Moscow opened its campaign through its local emissaries to gain control of the union, Mr. Leary said. Immediately thereafter the Freiheit, Yiddish Communist daily, was established, and the Trade Union International League, headed by William Z. Foster, as an instrument of penetration into American unions, was formed.

"By 1925 the Communists were in control of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union," Mr. Leary said. "In 1926 they launched their famous strike, in which 40,000 workers were involved, a strike marked by a campaign of terrorism, constant assaults and even bribery of the police. The strike ended disastrously. The workers lost \$30,000,000 in wages and the employers \$50,000,000. The conduct of the strike cost the union \$3,500,000, \$1,000,000 of which, deposited in the union treasury in guarantee bonds by employers having agreements with the union, was stolen by the Communists."

Since the strike the Communists have been driven out of the organization.

Recalls Fur Strike.

A similar story was told by Mr. Leary regarding the fur strike of 1926.

"This strike was finally settled by Matty Eitingen of the Eitingen-Schild Corporation," Mr. Leary said. "It was settled overnight after many weeks of struggle. Mr. Eitingen, whose firm has a \$30,000,000 fur concession from the Soviet Government, returned from a visit to Russia and went into conference with the strike leaders. An immediate settlement followed. What the inference is I leave to the committee."

"I do not believe that much money is sent to the Communists here directly from Moscow," Mr. Leary said. "I think most of it is deducted from payments received by Soviet representatives here from American firms."

Mr. Leary told the committee that Communist agents come into the United States on false or forged passports and many of them make their way into the country as seamen.

Says Strike Aims Are Political.

He also told of the work of the Communists among the miners and in the textile industry, covering the Passaic strike and the strikes in Lawrence and New Bedford, Mass., and in Gastonia, N. C.

"In all of these strikes the aims are political," he said. "Whereas the legitimate union is out to raise wages, the Communists are out to raise hell. Foster, in his articles on strategy, lays down the proposition

that every strike is a training ground for revolution.

Mr. Leary estimated there were about 20,000 Communists in New York. He pointed out, however, that the number of sympathizers was greater.

Mr. Randolph told the committee that while for the past year and a half Communist activities among Negroes have increased considerably there was little evidence that they were making any progress.

"Though the number of Negroes in the Communist party is very small, I should say there has been an increase in Communist sympathy among Negroes," Mr. Randolph said.

"I think that Communist activity among Negroes in America is inspired from Moscow. This explains the increase of activity.

"There is a discontent and unrest among Negroes as a whole due to a recrudescence of lynching, extensive peonage in the South, as in Georgia, Alabama, Texas, and to the disfranchisement of the Negro in Southern States. The recent matter concerning the Negro Gold Star mothers, who were segregated from the whites and treated as menials, has also met with resentment from Negroes.

PUTS NEGRO BELLS AT ONLY 50.

Mr. Randolph said that the best way to fight communism among Negroes is to correct the abuses from which Negroes are suffering.

Asked to state the number of Negroes in the Communist party Mr. Randolph said that he did not think it was more than 50.

Alderman Moore told the committee from the outset that he did not know much about communism, except that "it doesn't amount to much among Negroes."

Dr. Brown concluded his testimony with a criticism of the police in Harlem. He charged the police with being brutal at times and provocative of lawlessness and disorder."

This, he said, only tends to help the Communists.

Shortly after the opening of yesterday's hearing Chairman Fish denied the charge appearing in the press as a statement by Foster that Mr. Fish was the owner of tenements where "hundreds died of consumption."

"While I am reluctant to comment on stories appearing in the public press and to issue denials, I want to deny emphatically that I own tenements or any real estate in this city or in any other city," he said. "The remainder of Foster's charges are too slanderous and useless to merit a reply."

62-5727-511

903-4-5 Federal Reserve Bank Bldg.
Kansas City, Missouri.

August 12th, 1930.

Mr. C. W. Munster,
District Director,
Immigration Service,
609 Waltower Building,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Sir:

RE: Antorg Trading Company,
V. A. Hatchatouroff - deceased,
Radical Matter.

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated
August 8th, 1930 with reference to V. A. Hatchatouroff, your file
No. 27-371.

In this connection I wish to advise an agent of this
office has inspected the papers and personal effects of the above
mentioned individual in the mortuary of Lahey & Martin at Wichita,
Kansas. The Department at Washington is being advised as to the
contents thereof for any action and instructions deemed appropriate.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter I
beg to remain

Very truly yours,

J. R. Burdge,
Acting Special Agent in Charge.

B-nj
cc Bureau

61-53371
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 13 1930
Div. Four

WHALEY-EATON SERVICE

FOUNDED 1918

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American Letter No. 624.

August 16, 1930.

Dear Sir:

1. Elements in the realm of American-Soviet relationship are fast being precipitated into a real issue. Bitter feelings have been aroused and resultant propaganda is emphatic. A summary of current thought and developments is in order.

- a. Complaints against imports of Russian glue and gelatine are now added to those already registered in regard to lumber, coal, matches, pulp-wood and manganese. The case against bone-glue, which has been formally presented to the Treasury, may be taken as an example. American producers allege that the Russian article invoiced at 4¢ per pound c.i.f. New York and offered to the trade at 7¢, duty paid, constitutes a prima facie case of dumping, on the assumption that the product could not possibly be made at a cost which such selling price reflects. The Tariff Commission investigation showed 11¢ to be the lowest American production cost. In view of the difficulty of obtaining accurate cost figures or other data from Russia, it is asserted that, with such a showing, the burden of proof in regard to dumping now rests with Amtorg.
- b. The question among groups of American producers is: What next? For some months past, private investigators in Russia have been reporting back Soviet plans to harrass American trade by a sniping policy of underselling and dumping, and forecasting capacity to carry out the policy within two or three years. The fear now is that "the ravishing has already begun." The recent plea of Mr. Paul Cravath, at Williamstown, for an encouragement of trade with Russia is arousing resentment among the groups adversely affected by recent importations. They say: "Exports to Russia may be very helpful if they are not paid for by credits created by a demoralization of the American market in our line."

The importance of the foregoing is that a sharp division is being created in the ranks of American business, forecasting that the whole Russian question may get into American politics in a big way. The Administration's policy at the moment is not difficult to understand. When Mr. Hoover was Secretary

of Commerce he expressed emphatically his own ideas in more than one private conference. The Soviet Government was committed to political theories and international practices so out of line with our own system and our rules of trade and political ethics that a mutual trust was not possible; the Amtorg was a definite part of an untrustworthy outfit, wherefore, those who wished to sell goods to Russia did so under their own power and risk exclusively; valuable though the trade might become, it could not dictate American governmental policy towards Russia in any respect. There is no reason to assume that there has been any substantial change from the foregoing attitude since Mr. Hoover's shift from the Cabinet to the Presidency. On the other hand, the Administration will not discriminate against Russian importations; tests of "dumping" and other practices will be made strictly in accordance with the law under the same rules as are applied when other foreign nations are involved. Each case will be considered on its legal merits. This part of the problem is purely one of law administration and not one of policy. Informal official feeling is that several current issues that have been raised are "unfortunate" and the complaints unjustified from either a legal or economic point of view. It is even probable that, by reason of the political delicacies, officialdom will lean backwards in efforts to be fair. For example, there is the recent instance of a high American official formally receiving a Russian emissary, at the latter's request, a thing that would hardly have been possible, say, three years ago. And besides, as one high Administration officer is quoted as saying, "Lord knows, we need the business."

2. OUTLOOK: With present Administration policy towards Russia so clearly established, some new development will be necessary to precipitate a crisis. Among the possibilities are: (1) A formal request to the State Department to lift the ban on Russian loans and, (2) A report by the Fish Committee on the political activities of Amtorg which would force legislation in Congress.

- a. In regard to (1), although the suggestion has been discussed, any formal action is thought most unlikely. In regard to (2), despite the allegedly amateurish nature of the investigation, the work of the Fish Committee is taken very seriously in official Washington. Even on the inquiry so far, the printed hearings make much more convincing reading than did the current newspaper headlines. American officials, quite outside political groups, now profess for the first time to have authentic proof of communist political activities of Amtorg. If this materializes in conjunction with the report of the Fish Committee, legislation expanding the deportation laws is considered almost inevitable. There is also the possibility of amending the Tariff Act, some sections of which have been rendered ineffective by reason of the difficulty of obtaining acceptable information from Russia.

3. COMMENT: The crisis in American-Soviet relations is being precipitated by the attack of those groups now joining in an expanded "Stop Russia" movement. The anti-Soviet political movement in this country has heretofore been, in large degree, in the hands of "professional exaggerators." These and other patriotic organizations have now been actively joined by powerful business and labor groups and they have been very busy. It is understood that a number of American firms doing business in Russia have pledged themselves to withdraw, if communist activities of Amtorg in this country are proved. The anti-trust laws are being scanned with a view (1) of making them applicable to Russian trade practices and, (2) of expanding them to permit American business to meet "the Soviet Trust." Indeed, this emphasized conflict between centralized trade control and the American competitive theory is not the least interesting aspect of the existing situation.
4. TARIFF: Trade representatives at Washington are receiving questioning complaints in large volume over the President's delay in appointing a new Tariff Commission.

The plain answer is that Mr. Hoover is stubbornly searching for competent men who will accept. The complaints arise in many cases from those who took too literally assertions that the new flexible provisions would permit "emergency" readjustments. The present Commission takes the position that it cannot act. Many industries are now assuming that only those applications supported by Senate Resolution will be acted upon

within the next two years. Another uncertainty forecasting delay is the extent to which the new Commissioners will find it necessary to reorganize the subordinate personnel of the Commission. That substantial changes must be made in order to promote smooth running of the machinery is generally conceded, a problem which is complicated by civil service requirements.

It is to be doubted if the Administration considers the delay an unmixed evil, on the theory that a period of emotional liquidation is in order. Furthermore, it is a little too early to assume an ineffective future Commission; the reason for the delay is the President's effort in the beginning to assure a leadership which will function generally and, on occasion, with spectacular speed.

5. I. C. C.: Recent Interstate Commerce Commission decisions indicate plainly that the membership is as badly torn by regional controversies as ever in its history. This fact has a special bearing on the question of Senate confirmation of Mr. Mahaffie, succeeding Commissioner Woodlock, and of Commissioner McManamy who, it is assumed, will be reappointed. Incidentally, there are reports of another resignation.

- a. The situation in the Senate will again be complicated by the intrusion of the Lake Cargo controversy. The new case apparently comes under Section 3 of the Transportation Act and a Commission majority has already, on recent occasions, adopted a liberal construction of that Section, a fact which would forecast affirmation of the Commission's last Lake Cargo decision.

The division within the I.C.C. is close enough to make the appointment of new Members a matter of first importance. The Administration feels that the great accomplishment of the Commission to date has been to keep the railroad question reasonably out of politics. Wherefore, the President will grasp every opportunity to strengthen Commission personnel and to subordinate regional considerations.

6. The earlier forecast was for a business upturn in early fall and "full swing ahead" next spring. The drought has prompted a feeling that the upturn may be more hesitant and the recovery speed moderated. There appears no serious official worry on this score; the assumption is noted that America can enjoy a reasonable prosperity even with spotty agriculture.

WHALEY-EATON SERVICE.

HW:FRS

61-5381 - 3

August 29, 1930.

SEP 3 - 1930

Mr. Robert F. Kelley,
Chief, Division of Eastern European Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

att
There is enclosed herewith, for your information and such action as may be deemed appropriate, copy of a letter dated August 21, 1930, which I have received from Mr. J.R. Burdge, Special Agent in Charge of the Kansas City, Missouri, office of the Bureau, together with copies of the enclosures which accompanied this letter.

It appears from the peculiar circumstances surrounding Hatchatouroff's death that the documents and papers which he left might be of interest to the Government. If you have any information concerning the deceased, or any action is taken by the Department of State to obtain possession of his papers, I shall appreciate being advised accordingly.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enc. 651347

*copy made for
Mr. Rodes 9. 23. 30*

RM:FRS

61-5381-34

August 29, 1930.

SEP 3 - 1930

Mr. J. R. Burdge,
905 Federal Reserve Bank Bldg.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

at
Reference is made to your letter dated August 21, 1930, with enclosures, concerning the death of V. A. Hatchatouroff, at Wichita, Kansas, on May 21, 1930. A copy of your letter, with its enclosures, is being forwarded to the Department of State for its information and such action as may be deemed appropriate.

The Bureau files contain no information concerning the deceased subject of your letter. The Bureau, however, is very much interested in the death of Hatchatouroff and the papers and documents which were left by him and which are now in the possession of the Coroner at Wichita, Kansas. It appears rather unusual that the Amtorg officials, after denying any interest in deceased, should suddenly become so anxious to obtain possession of his papers.

It appears from your letter that Coroner Heckman is convinced that subject committed suicide. Apparently the letter which the deceased left at the time of his death, and which stresses the fact that he is not affiliated with the Communist Party, was in his own handwriting. Should there be any suspicion that subject was murdered, it is probable that his papers and documents will be retained by the State authorities at Wichita, and possibly translated. If this should happen and your office is furnished with copies of the documents or translations, they should be forwarded to the Bureau. In any event, should you receive any further information concerning this matter, the Bureau should be advised accordingly.

Very truly yours,

Director.

*Copy for Mr. Burdge
61-5381-34*

100

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

905 Federal Reserve Bank Building
Kansas City, Missouri
August 21, 1930

Director
Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: AMTORG TRADING COMPANY
V. A. HATCHATOUIROFF - Deceased
RADICAL MATTER
K.C. 62-541

A letter written by Chas. E. Lahey, Wichita, Kansas, copy of which is enclosed herewith, to O. W. Munster, District Director, Immigration Service, Kansas City, Missouri, was referred by that official to this office for appropriate action.

Vazgen Agabekobitch Hatchatouroff, a citizen of the Soviet Republic, committed suicide at 611 South Topeka Avenue, Wichita, Kansas, on May 21, 1930, by shooting himself in the right temple with a revolver. A letter signed by said Hatchatouroff, written in Russian, was found on the table and is now in the possession of Coroner D. C. Heckman at Wichita, Kansas. A copy of this letter as translated by Professor Ivan Petroff, University of Wichita, is enclosed herewith. Hatchatouroff left the following personal effects:

- One suitcase filled with papers, writings, letters, etc.
- One suitcase containing articles of clothing.
- One portfolio containing writings and papers of the deceased.
- One bound volume of writings on theme paper.

Special Agent John T. Trimble of this office, while in Wichita, examined the effects left by the deceased, V. A. Hatchatouroff, which are now in the possession of Coroner Heckman, which examination disclosed that in the suitcase containing the papers of the deceased were his passport, a non quota temporary visitor's passport, a number of personal letters addressed to the deceased mailed from Russia, a number of telegrams addressed to the deceased, practically all signed Tchamroff and a number of loose leaf notebooks containing writings of the deceased in Russian; also a number of drawings and illustrations apparently relating to the petroleum refining industry. The bound volume of writings of the deceased, about three-fourths of an inch in thickness, was wrapped in a separate parcel and written entirely in Russian and also has a number of sketches or drawings which would indicate that same pertains to the petroleum refining industry.

It appears that Hatchatouroff was originally a member of a party of engineers and students who came to this country on July 12, 1929, as representa-

- 2 -

tives of the Groznest Oil Company with the expressed intention of studying the American method of petroleum refining. The majority of this party is supposed to have left this country in the early part of this year. The deceased, Hatchatouroff, evidently remained in this country because of some action of the Soviet authorities in Russia. The deceased was employed in Wichita by the Winkler Coch Company, 429 First National Bank Building.

Mr. Heckman advised Special Agent Trimble that a Russian, name not recalled, visited him and examined the bound volume of written papers which the deceased had requested to be forwarded to the Amtorg Trading Company, Suite 612, 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, New York, and was very anxious to obtain same, stating that the deceased's father and mother would be very much pleased to have it. The Coroner declined to surrender custody of same and the man stated to him that he was going to New York and would confer with the officials of the Amtorg Trading Company concerning same. A few days later Mr. Heckman received a letter from the Amtorg Trading Company requesting that these papers and other effects be forwarded to them according to the last instructions of the deceased in order that they might in turn forward them to his parents in Russia. Previously when advised of the deceased's death by Lahey & Martin Mortuary the Amtorg Trading Company had written them advising that they had no connection whatsoever with the deceased and did not desire that any of his papers or effects be forwarded to them. This circumstance has caused the Coroner to believe that there is possibly something in the papers and the writings of the deceased which might be of interest to the Federal Government. The funds for burial of Hatchatouroff were forwarded from the Chase National Bank, New York, to the Union National Bank, Wichita, apparently by the U. S. S. R.

The Coroner at Wichita has received inquiries from A. R. Burr, Special Agent in Charge, New York State Commissioner of Commerce, and the Pinkerton Detective Agency concerning the facts in this case. Both stated or implied that they desired same in connection with the activities of the Communists in this country.

I am transmitting this information to you for appropriate advice as to further investigation in this district or for transmittal to any other department or for such appropriate action as you deem advisable. The Coroner at Wichita has stated that he would hold the effects of the deceased until he is advised that the Federal Government has no desire to examine or take charge of same.

Please advise me as to whether or not this Bureau or any other Government department desires to secure possession of these effects for use in further investigation of this matter.

Very truly yours,



J. R. BURDGE
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

JTT:MJ
Encs.

Douglas at Lulu
Wichita, Kansas
August 7, 1930

Mr. O. Walter Munster
District Director
U. S. Immigration Service
909 Waltower Bldg.
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

On May 21st, 1930, a Russian named V. S. Hatchatouroff, residing here in Wichita, shot and killed himself, committing suicide. He left a letter saying he was not a traitor, copy of letter we are enclosing you.

What we wish to take up with you is this: He left several suitcases of letters in Russian language (as this letter was), and a few articles of belongings. He ordered his letters and maps sent to New York City to the Amtorg Trading Company as well as his body. After communicating with them they would have nothing to do with him or any of his belongings. We wish to know if the Government of the United States would be interested in these maps and papers for if he was a traitor to our country or his own country and if the Amtorg Trading Company is a traitor, something might be found out through these letters and maps, etc.

Thanking you to advise us regarding these valuable papers or give us address of correct party to write to, if you are the right one, we are

Yours very truly

LAHEY & MARTIN MORTUARY

By (Sgd) Chas. E. Lahey

C O P Y

COPIES DESTROYED
1965 APR 24 1961

C O P Y

V. A. HATCHATOUROFF'S LETTER

*Copy of letter
sent 3-30*

I am very sorry and earnestly ask American Government to forgive me that I am ending my life. When I was admitted here it of course was not for this purpose. However in the life of many people there are certain moments when it is necessary to commit suicide. People who are guilty in my death and by whom I was delegated in America (U.S.) are located in Union of Socialist Republic (U.S.S.R.).

They exclude the possibility for me to participate in this industrial construction of my country and to build her a great future. To which I devote all my existence. They took from me my wife and parents and relatives and made me a criminal before my country, using their authority and provocation - everything that they could they succeeded in making me a criminal. Government and authorities of my country punish for this thing very severely. To them I appeal.

This is an entirely clear matter between me and these people and any decision or solution of my Government before hand I consider fair because I am loyal to her, with all my soul.

The only laws of my country, which I consider fair, could tell who and how much is guilty.

I am ending my life because I inflicted harm to my Government because I went back to the U. S. S. R. That is to say made a crime before Government which I respect and I am loyal with all my soul.

I am not a Communist. I am one of the number of young men who now in my country, build new Government. I was living by this and it filled all my existence; it was my only aim; but my country was taken from me.

I beg pardon of authorities of the State of Kansas and especially of the Police Department of the City of Wichita, that by my action I trouble them.

All my things and letters to my wife and the parents, I am asking you to please send to Amtorg, 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City. They in turn will send them to U. S. S. R. for further destination. I am an atheist and do not believe in any religion.

For all the expenses in connection with the funeral and sending things (belongings) you please use the money left for this purpose and send the remainder to Amtorg.

I beg pardon for not fulfilling formalities with respect to my passport. However it was given to me for a whole year. I am very thankful and respect the citizens of the U. S. that they admitted me kindly in their country and again I am exceedingly sorry that I am returning you evil for good by dying in a strange place. I hate to die from home because I like my country and its way of living and traditions, laws, etc.

COPIES DESTROYED

R466 APR 24 1961

I am deeply convinced and consider it a most wretched deed when a man forgets his country. In America everybody is big hearted and kind. Therefore please forgive and consider me as a mentally sick man.

For forwarding to Amtorg I leave:

First	My passport
Second	Two suitcases with belongings, portfolio and overcoat.
Third	Package with letters delivering to Amtorg.
Fourth	Remaining money after all expenses in connection with funeral are paid.

Once more I beg you to forgive me. Once more I ask you do not mix any politics with my death. This is absolutely a private affair that could happen to the citizens of any country. Again I repeat I broke the laws of my country, therefore I am a criminal but I am not guilty. My comrades wanted and succeeded in making me a criminal, without noticing that by this they themselves also trespassed the laws of my country.

Signed V. A. Hatchatouroff

The ending of another letter was also there.

"There will be no trouble with Amtorg and the people who sent me here will answer."

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

906 Federal Reserve Bank Building

Kansas City, Missouri

September 16, 1930

Director
Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: AMTORG TRADING COMPANY
V. A. HATCHATOUROFF - Deceased
RADICAL MATTER
K.C. 62-541

Reference is made to your letter of August 29,
1930. *see 24*

While at Wichita, Kansas, September 3, 1930,
Special Agent L. B. Reed of this office conferred with
Coroner Heckman concerning the Hatchatouroff matter.
Agent Reed advises me that the Coroner will hold the
papers and documents in question until requested by
either the State Department or the Department of
Justice. It seems that the Coroner is very determined
in this respect and that the Hatchatouroff documents
will be safe in the Coroner's keeping.

Very truly yours,



J. R. BURDGE
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

LBR:MJ

SEP 24 1930

*Copy to Mr. [unclear]
[unclear] 9-24-30*

[unclear]

m

RM:FRS

61-5381

October 4, 1930.

Agent in Charge,
Bureau of Investigation,
905 Federal Reserve Bank Bldg.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of September 16 in connection with the death of one V. A. Hatchatouroff, at Wichita, Kansas, on May 21, 1930. There is enclosed herewith, for your information, copy of a communication dated September 19, 1930, addressed to the Bureau by Mr. Robert F. Kelley of the State Department, together with a memorandum of September 29 from the Criminal Division of the Department.

In accordance with the request from the Department of State, and instructions contained in the memorandum from the Criminal Division of the Department, the Bureau desires that the Coroner at Wichita, Kansas, be requested to turn over to your office the papers and documents which were left by Hatchatouroff at the time of his death. It is suggested that these documents be requested in a very discreet manner, and that the Coroner be advised that the Bureau is requesting these documents for the Department of State.

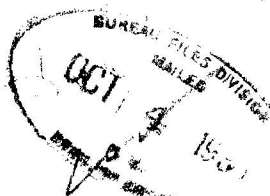
It will be observed from Mr. Kelley's letter of September 19, which is enclosed herewith, that Hatchatouroff was probably involved in some irregularity in connection with his passport and his return to this country, and it appears that it is with a view to clearing up this irregularity that the Department of State has requested the documents in question.

In the event the Coroner at Wichita, Kansas, voluntarily surrenders these documents to a representative of your office, they should be shipped direct to the Bureau for transmittal to the Department of State.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enc. 762115



RW:FRS
61-5381

61-5381-37
October 4, 1930.

~~CONFIDENTIAL.~~ (U)

Mr. Robert F. Kelley,
Chief, Division of Eastern European Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

see 36
Reference is made to your letter of
September 19, 1930, concerning the death of
V. A. Hatchatouroff.

In accordance with your request, the
Kansas City, Missouri, office of the Bureau of
Investigation has been instructed to request the
Coroner at Wichita, Kansas, to turn over the
papers and documents which were left by Hatcha-
touroff, in order that they may be forwarded to
the Department of State. In the event the Coroner
surrenders these documents, they will be forwarded
to you by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

Director.

[Handwritten signature]



RE:FRS
61-5381 - 37

October 4, 1930.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NUGENT DODDS
ACTING HEAD OF CRIMINAL DIVISION

act
In accordance with your memorandum of September 29, 1930 (initials ND:FMP), in connection with the death of one V. A. Hatchatouroff, the Kansas City, Missouri, Bureau office has been instructed to request the Coroner at Wichita, Kansas, to surrender the papers and documents now in his custody, in order that they may be forwarded to the Department of State.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enc. 139805
(Memo. dated Sept. 23
from Bu. to Mr. Dodds)



for

RW:HC
61-5381-36

September 23, 1930.

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NUGENT DODDS, ACTING HEAD,

SEP 23 1930

CRIMINAL DIVISION

In accordance with conversation of September 20, 1930, between Mr. Parrish and Mr. Whitley of the Bureau, there is inclosed herewith for your information a copy of a letter dated August 21, 1930, which was addressed to the Bureau by Mr. J. R. Burdge, Special Agent in Charge of the Kansas City, Missouri, office of the Bureau, together with copies of the inclosures which accompanied this letter, concerning the death of one V. A. Hatchatouroff, at Wichita, Kansas, on May 21, 1930. There are also inclosed herewith copies of Bureau letters dated August 29, 1930, which were addressed to Mr. Burdge and to Mr. Robert F. Kelley, of the Department of State, in connection with this matter, together with replies from Mr. Burdge and Mr. Kelley dated September 16 and September 19, respectively.

Please advise the Bureau what action, if any, you desire to be taken in connection with this matter.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Incl. #651963

SEP 23 1930
P. M.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
OCT 20 1930
NO: FRG
61-5381-38

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

October 20, 1930.

Mr. Robert F. Kelley,
Chief, Division of Eastern European Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Kelley:

Reference is made to your letter of
September 19, 1930, and to Bureau reply dated
October 4, 1930, concerning the death of V. A.
Hatchatouroff at Wichita, Kansas, on May 21, 1930.

In accordance with the request contained
in your communication of September 19, I am forwarding
to you today, by messenger, a box containing Hatcha-
touroff's passport, letters, telegrams, and other
documents, which were voluntarily turned over by the
Coroner at Wichita, Kansas, to a representative of
the Bureau of Investigation for transmittal to you.

Please furnish me with a receipt for these
documents, and it will be appreciated if you will
forward to the Bureau of Investigation any information
of interest which might appear when these documents are
translated.

Very truly yours,

Director.

X

file

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

905 Federal Reserve Bank Building,

Kansas City, Missouri.

October 11, 1930.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re: V. A. Hatchatouroff (Deceased)
RADICAL MATTER
K.C. File 62-541-

237
This will acknowledge receipt of Bureau letter dated October 4, 1930, with reference to the above entitled case and directing this office to endeavor to obtain the papers and documents, which were left by the above Subject at the time of his death, from Coroner Heckman at Wichita, Kansas. In response thereto, Special Agent C. D. White of this office called on Coroner Heckman at Wichita on the 9th instant, and after it was explained to Coroner Heckman that certain officials of the Department of State were desirous of examining the papers and documents left by Hatchatouroff, Coroner Heckman readily agreed to turn the same over to Agent White for transmittal to the Bureau.

A box containing Hatchatouroff's passport, certain telegrams and other miscellaneous data, which may be of value to the Bureau and the Department of State, is being transmitted to the Bureau under separate cover to-day.

Very truly yours,

J. R. Burdge

J. R. Burdge,
Special Agent in Charge.

B-abc
cc-enclosed with
above mentioned data
for identification.

OCT 20 1930

RM:FRS

61-5381

October 15, 1930.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NUGENT DODDS

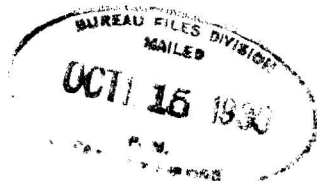
ACTING HEAD OF CRIMINAL DIVISION

per 37
With further reference to your memorandum of September 29, 1930, relative to the death of one V.A. Hatchatouroff at Wichita, Kansas, the Bureau of Investigation is in receipt of a box containing Hatchatouroff's passport, letters, telegrams, and other documents, which were voluntarily furnished by the Coroner at Wichita, Kansas, to a representative of the Bureau.

Confirming conversation of October 14, 1930, between Mr. Parrish and Mr. Whitley of the Bureau, these documents have been forwarded to the State Department for translation and appropriate attention.

Very truly yours,

Director.

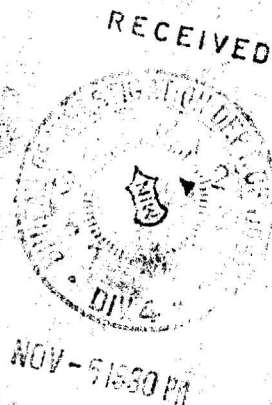


61-5381-

Post Office Box #251
Grand Central Station
New York City.

FJC:H

November 1, 1930.



Mr. Robert E. Manley
Acting U.S. Attorney
Old Post Office Bldg.
New York, New York.

Attention - Mr. Catinella

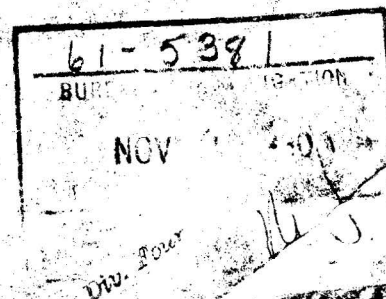
Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter of October 27th, 1930, we are returning herewith to you the anonymous communication referring to alleged communistic activities, or their association with others of this class, as to the Association for the Improvement of Colored People, inasmuch as we have no authority to take up investigation as to alleged communistic activities.

Very truly yours,

E. J. CONNELLEY
Special Agent in Charge

cc Bureau
Encl.



C
O
P
Y

New York Oct. 22

U S Dist Attorney
New York

Dear Sir:

The writer has reason to believe that the association for the improvement of colored people, so called, is working with Amtorg and getting Russian money on Bolshevik promises of "equality", "white wives", etc. There are several negroes in Russia who are fomenting trouble among American negroes and this is a matter that should be investigated.

American.

CAA:JOM

61-5381-4

December 11, 1930.

RECORDED
Special Agent in Charge,
Bureau of Investigation,
905 Federal Reserve Bank Bldg.,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Sir:

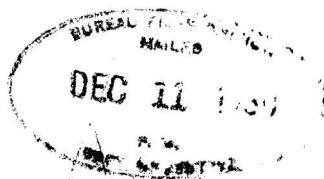
att
With further reference to the matter of
V. A. Hatchaturoff, deceased - Radical Matter, your
file 62-541, the papers and documents forwarded with
your letter of October 11th were turned over to the
State Department, where they have been examined. These
papers have been arranged in folders and are being re-
turned to you under separate cover.

You should return the papers to the Coroner
and at the same time, express the appreciation of the
Government for his cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enc. #431014.



ENCLOSURE



61-5381-1

Memoranda, charts,
copies of order blanks,
etc., all relating to
technical subjects and
business transactions of
GROZNEFT with American
firms.

These two binders contain
notes of a purely technical
character, being observations
of the writer concerning
American methods of oil
production, machinery, etc.
Apparently written to form
the basis of a report,
following the visit of the
writer to various oil-
producing regions in this
country.

Publications of a
technical nature, mainly
having to do with oil
products.

Copy of visa application.

Passport.

Farewell letter to his
wife and parents.

Photographs.

Notebooks and telegrams,
all of a technical character.

Stationery, steamship
entertainment program
and menu. Bulletin of
Christ Church, Houston,
Texas.

Notes From a Diary of Khatchatouroff.

Left Grozny on the 13th of June, 1929. Arrived in Moscow on the 15th of June. Went to Berlin and stopped there with a companion Artuhoditch. He was in Berlin from the 21st to the 30th of June. Arrived in New York on July 12.

July 14. - New York.

Chamroff and Slutsky came to see him at ten o'clock; all three had breakfast together. Later went to Central Park, later to movies, then to the Automat and then to bed.

July 15.

At Amtorg on statistical work.

July 16.

At Amtorg.

July 17.

Receives orders to go to Tulsa, Oklahoma.
Greatly impressed by New York.

July 18.

Left New York.

July 19.

We arrived at St. Louis to change trains.

July 20.

We arrived at Tulsa. We went to the hotel to see Chamroff and he introduced us to Baraninoff. Later

from the firm of Winkler and Cox Company, Mr. Cox called and we are going to inspect his plant tomorrow.

July 21.

Travelled to oil wells by automobiles.

July 22.

We arose at eight o'clock. Cox came in. I, Chamroff, and Khaibekoff went out to inspect the oil plant "White Eagle".

July 21 - 24.

Inspecting oil wells.

July 24.- 7 p.m.

Marchulov took us out in his car for a ride.

There are frequent references to letters from his wife and his desire to return home.

July 26.

This morning, I, Chamroff, and Khaibekoff inspected oil plants.

July 26. - Tulsa.

(Translation). "I got up at eight o'clock. We had breakfast at once and left for the factory (zavod). I wanted to begin studying their method of making grease but the manager, Mr. Kuntz, refused me permission". He remarks, however, that after three days he will be in possession of their method.

* * * * *

July 29.

Nersesov and Soloviev arrived from New York on inspection tour and left next day, Soloviev going to California.

August 1.

Went to factory. Note from Manager that he wants to see us at once. We saw him and he said he had to leave town at once and during his absence they will not be permitted to go into the factory. "What happened today really surprised me." Explosion in the factory today.

August 2.

Manager leaving at 12 o'clock today. "That means we can't visit the factory again. Therefore I rushed through all the departments once more. Tomorrow morning leaving for Seminola."

August 3.

Left for Seminola, about 140 miles from Tulsa.

August 4.

Back in Bleda. Still awaiting telegraphic instructions from Chamroff.

August 5.

Telegram to Chamroff that they were no longer permitted to enter the factory.

August 6.

Telegram from Chamroff telling them that Slutsky will

will arrange for them to inspect the factory "Marlanda". However, "material in hand so arranged that I can make a report immediately". Bought large envelope "so that I can send report to Chamroff".

"They arrested a drunken policeman. Of course, in this country there is supposed to be prohibition, but you can buy as much as you want and what you want."

August 12.

Representative of "Bella" arrived. We all went to Ponka City, "but the manager of the plant would not permit us to go into the place alone." Had to be accompanied by an escort. Therefore they departed.

August 13.

Arrived at Marlanda. Very interesting work. Writing down everything he sees. But the engineer of the factory who accompanied them "got on his nerves." He is "just like a mummy" and gave them not a word of information, but watches their every step, watching them closely.

Made a complete report later of everything he saw.

August 14.

Inspected plant. Received telegram from Amtorg to leave at once for the plant of "Champlin Co." at Enid.

August

August 15.

Mr. TURBOX received from "Bella" telegram ordering him to return to New York at once.

Now only he and Khaibekoff are left.

At night I wrote about "breishtoek". (This word frequently appears in his notes and telegrams.)

August 16 - 26.

Nothing of interest.

It is of interest to note that his business cards are printed: "V. A. Hatchatouroff". Envelopes of letters from his wife are addressed to him likewise but in the letters from his wife and a friend he is called "Lev Ivanovitch".

These papers are of a technical character.
I have made notations on each set.

After very careful examination, the only passages that might be considered non-technical are contained on the outer cover of the attached folder, from which it would appear that the writer was contemplating leaving the country. A translation follows:

1. Is it necessary to go to customs?
2. Tickets.
3. Visas for passport.
4. Licences.
5. Licences for "photoaparats."
6. Sharpen("stanok"?) -literally board or plank-for "automat."
7. Get bill from store for machine.
8. Verify bills.

MEMORANDUM

These letters contain nothing of a political nature and nothing that would be of any particular interest to the Department. There are in all 68 letters from Mrs. Khatchatouroff to her husband in the United States. They are written in typically Russian endearing terms. It was understood that husband and wife had agreed to write each other once a day. Apparently the husband numbered his letters because the wife frequently mentions that some of her husband's letters had gone astray. The wife signs her name "Asya" and usually writes from Novocherkask, although some of her communications are dated from Kilsvodsk, where her husband's parents reside. At Novocherkask she lives with her mother, who is described to be in ill health.

Practically all of the letters are devoted to family matters. The wife has been in ill health and it is necessary for her to have hypodermic injections of some kind, which seem to relieve her and produce sleep.

She thanks her husband for certain technical publications which he sent her and says that she is studying them and improving her knowledge of "science". She is in no immediate need of money. On September 12, she writes, she received his salary for one half month from GNOZNEFT,

amounting

amounting to 128 rubles and 78 kopeks. Later, however, on October 24, she received a letter from GROZNEFT that when an employee is "commandeered" to a foreign country, they pay full salary to his family for only three months. After that they pay only one-half salary.

In many of her letters Mr. Khatchatouroff expresses anxiety concerning a stomach trouble from which her husband appeared to have been suffering.

On October 29, she wrote him that she had received his letter stating that he would leave for Russia in November or early in December. She writes that she will not send any more letters, as he would not receive them before his departure.

All of her letters are written very guardedly. There is no mention of conditions in the country and nothing of a political nature.

In one of her letters she expresses great interest in her husband's intention to write a volume on American industry.

Hatchaturoff's

letter to the G.P.U.

Translation of pages 1-42 of letter.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF AMTORG FOR DESPATCHING TO THE U.S.S.R.

To the Collegium of the G.P.U. of the U.S.S.R.

Constructing Engineer of the State Trust
"GROZNEFT", Khachaturov, V. A.

How It Happened That I Remained Abroad

First of all I shall explain the reasons prompting me to write you. At the present time, notwithstanding my wishes in the matter, I cannot return to my native country, and it is not because I have no money or because I am afraid of being shot. No, simply because after what has happened, since everyone evidently believes that I am an enemy of the working class or

capitalist "freedom", which was always repugnant to me (with this freedom it is everything for the sake of the dollar), it will be a little too difficult for me to explain myself to everybody. If I felt the slightest malice toward the working class, toward the Soviet government or toward the G.P.U., believe me, I would not write you. But that is just the point, the entire tragedy is in the fact that I never had, never could have had and do not have now before my death, such a feeling. Therefore, for the sake of truth, in order

illumination of facts and that the investigation of my case may follow the correct path, it is necessary to explain. I am prompted to

explain

explain also in order that I may not be considered a political enemy, which I have never been. My characteristics as a person and especially my political physiognomy can be established precisely by the Grozny G.P.U., with which I was connected for about 3, 4 months. As a matter of fact, as it might have happened

I remained abroad. Now, I am not the son of a capitalist, according to my social position I am near to the working class, I have never fought and never could fight against the policy of my government, since I have received all my training, at least

, under the Soviet power at the expense of Soviet money, finally, since all my life and that of my parents preceding the Soviet power, as that of people belonging to the national minorities and suffering many persecutions from other nationalities (Russians, Turks, Persians) - all this together incited in me an ideology which could not have been and is not against the working class, and, therefore, against the Soviet power.

Nevertheless, notwithstanding all this, I found myself in the role of a political criminal, not having any means to rectify what has happened. Taking advantage of my illness, my spiritual struggle, a person to whom this was advantageous, made me lose my head. Indeed, at the present time I am considered the worst enemy of the working class, as a matter of fact I never was and never could be such. All my life and work previous to this can serve as proof of this. Ask any of my co-workers or engineers, except, of course, that villain Khatbekov (I have a right to call him thus - you will see from what follows), each one will say: "what has

happened

happened is more than strange" and he will at once be nonplussed and will not understand how such a thing could have happened, and, therefore, not knowing the reasons, will say - there are all kinds of villains in the world, but the like of this one I have never seen. However, having said this, he will be very wrong. It is possible to deceive individuals, it is even possible to deceive a mass of people, but it is not possible to deceive a mass of people for a long time. It is false to think that I

with any sums of money, at the time I was left in Berlin when I was ill, all the money I had was about 200 dollars. It is futile to search for any offenses in connection with my work - there are none. Therefore, every sane person will say, what then, what is the matter here, something else made him lose his head. As a matter of fact, if this were a premeditated plan, you know I would have remained in America. Tell me what idiot, desiring for some reason to remain abroad, will leave a country where it is easiest of all to make money, the language of which he knows, and having money in his pocket will squander that money on his way. It is clear that I never even thought of remaining, and that such a thought never even entered my head. It is true that my mind began to break even in Tulsa, but, I repeat, I was definitely ruined by those villains in Berlin. Perhaps they will seek relatives of mine abroad - there are none - none of my relatives ever went abroad, I myself was never further than

Furthermore, I not only have no relatives abroad but not even any acquaintances. Therefore the question presents itself. Politically he is inclined against

capitalism,

capitalism, he hates bourgeois countries, he has committed no offenses in connection with his work, no thoughts of gain, not one relative or acquaintance abroad - how then could it have happened that a person abandoned his dearly beloved wife, his parents, his socialist native country to which he is attached, and remained abroad.

Later on I shall tell you the whole truth, the investigation will reach a similar conclusion. I have no thought of writing you lies, I am absolutely not interested in that - in a few hours I shall not be among the living - I trust my second attempt to take my life will be more successful.

I feel that I have the right to write you, notwithstanding what has happened. Why, if I were politically inclined against you, believe me, I would not write you, and certainly I would continue to live, for which purpose I have everything. I earn money, I reside in a country the language of which I speak, I have the opportunity to follow my direct vocation, I am young - in general, these are all the requisites, but for the chief thing: I cannot serve the capitalists, that is not why so much money has been spent on me. Furthermore, in a year I shall be able to

all the money which

, but I

know that

- all the same, I

shall not be at ease and shall consider myself a criminal. Only one thing astonishes me, how was I able to live this long.

How

How The Assignment Was Carried Out

Upon our arrival in New York, we immediately busied ourselves with orders for the trust in America and I had to orders for factory equipment. Everything went well, we worked in a friendly manner, accomplished a great deal and after 8 or 10 days departed for Tulsa. In Tulsa at this time, on his way to California, we found Khatbekov - that villain. I had a feeling of dislike for this man and fear of him. Even in Grozny before his departure abroad (he left 1 or 2 months before I did) he once came into our bureau, approached me and said that he must speak to me personally on an important matter and asked me to come down to the restaurant. I wondered what he wanted to talk to me about so secretly. Soon the matter became apparent. He received a certificate, sent to him by the Supreme Council of National Economy, for his departure abroad, he showed it to me and said: "see, your assignment was before mine, and here I have this paper already, while you, perhaps, will never receive it. You are hindered by Akkerman and Bankov - they will not let you go, I have definitely ascertained this, only see that you do not tell them this." I said nothing to him, but from that moment that man became repugnant to me, for the reason that he told lies and his sole desire was to vex me. I write you of this because it has an influence on later events. And so, I had a sufficient reason to dislike this man, since, on the one hand, he almost kissed the soles of Akkerman's feet, while, on the other hand, he falsely incited other people against him. Here, of course, the point is not about Akkerman - he, it may be, is a very good or a very bad man -

man - but the point is the behavior of that villain.
Personally I, for example, liked neither Akkerman nor Mankov
because of their , haughtiness and
, but I always spoke
of this openly and spoke my thoughts

(Pages 9 and 10 are missing)

I met this evil spirit for the second time in New Orleans.
History again repeated itself, Chamrov sent a letter to the
effect that it was necessary to write a preliminary report
to the Supreme Council of National Economy, I got to work,
worked nights, finished it, it was signed and sent. I write
you all this so that you may know the root of his hatred
for me. Finally, after the exhibition in Tulsa, Chamrov
sent him to New York to attend to the orders, we were to
inspect the factories. This was entirely just, since he
had seen more than I, and he should have gone to New York
and wait . Here he could no longer
restrain himself, notwithstanding his fox-like slyness,
and could not hide his hatred for me. Thus, he departed.
On the return trip, in Tulsa, I became ill, but my illness
was of such a nature that it was not necessary for me to
stay in bed, therefore, I said nothing to anyone, but
decided that in 6 days I would be in New York and would
cure myself. Morally during these days I suffered
extremely and if we add here the articles which I personally
had to write for Chamrov, my position will be understood.
I figured that at the time I wrote 350 pages
, while
certainly not less than 1,000 pages. It was terribly
difficult,

difficult, my nerves were impaired to the utmost. Upon arrival in New York, matters took such a turn that it was necessary to work whole days and nights on business of the trust both in the Amtorg and at home and, therefore, I had no opportunity to doctor myself. But here we have business of another sort, here we have sorcery on the part of Khatbekov.

Within the first hour of my arrival in New York, Khatbekov told me very secretly that in Grozny 32 persons were shot and that all project men were being arrested. In answer to my question as to how he knew all this, he said that he was confidentially informed regarding this matter by Delgas and Korobovkin, who asked him not to tell me because I am a project man. At first I did not believe this, I thought that it could not be that all the responsible people be shot at once. Nevertheless, this snake, notwithstanding the fact that I knew him and felt his hatred for me, was able to effect a certain impression. Whenever Khatbekov and I met, he spoke to me of nothing else. He gave me all the news: "Delgas says that even Sakhanov was taken" or "it seems that Trafimov is arrested too" or "I'm glad that I'm not in the project bureau, if I were, I do not know what would have happened to me" or "you know who is going with us, it is Chamrov, the agent of the Cheka, he is the director of a special division, you do not know him, but I know him since the year '31, oh! one must watch out for him, one must, devil take it, be cheerful or else everything is lost" or "they can take you direct from the border and not let you even see anyone". Seeing that this had some effect on me, he

would

would come into my room and say "Today Chamrov said that you seem somewhat sad" etc., etc. From this moment my moral illness begins - I had no strength to resist it and succumbed to his words. And, in addition, a progressive illness. Therefore, I decided to verify all this. How could I do it - I waited for the arrival of Makhnevich and Korobkin. Up to this time I went to Kharbekov twice and begged him to leave me alone and not tell me anything and to keep all his news to himself. I do not know why, but from this time even Chamrov began to treat me considerably worse, I do not know what provoked this, I think the fact that I really became somewhat strange. Thus, unknown to myself, I began to submit more and more to the influence of that rascal - Kharbekov. That is what he wanted, - he had his revenge, for what, even I myself do not know. Upon reading this, you certainly will wonder how I could have succumbed to this, - I myself do not know. Some mental disorder? It may be, I do not know.

Finally, the long awaited Makhnevich and Korobkin arrived. I waited for them and immediately upon their arrival was the first to speak to them about the Grozny affairs. From them I found out very little, since it seems that they had stayed in Berlin a month, and the events had begun only two days prior to their departure. I am asked what business of mine was this affair, was it not true that I had committed no offenses, was not my conscience clear! Unfortunately, the villain was doing his work and was assisted not a little by my progressive illness. After this I remember that that snake again came to me and said: "Of course, they won't tell you, to someone else, perhaps, but not to you, are you a

child

child that you do not understand. Chamrov knows all, ask him." I only answered: "Can one speak of such things with Chamrov?" The following evening in the barber shop I met Emanuellov and Korobkin. I think: I'll try again and see what they will say; and say: "When I return to Grozny I shall transfer without fail to production, I will work

" Emanuellov answered:

"That's that? No, brother, they will make you a second Akkerman, ."

I immediately wonder how a person can reach such a state and make conclusions regarding the information of that villain from such conversations. Emanuellov said this simply, without any reserved thought - I should not have paid any attention to this and

But Khanbekov's sorcery had done its work and I concluded that this means that that villain is correct. Why? I do not know. At this time Chamrov's attitude toward me became clearly hostile, why, I do not know, he will tell you, I interpreted all this in one way - that is, that Khanbekov was correct. Finally, I reached such a state that I decided I must end it all and before my departure from New York, through the Amtorg doctor, I secured some opium. Khanbekov, notwithstanding my entreaties, seeing that I was having a difficult time, continued his work. Both in New York and on the steamer he invariably said to me: "Each day you give yourself away more and more, Chamrov has asked me directly, what is the matter with Khachaturov - it must be that he knows." When I asked him to drop the entire matter he said spitefully: "You and you will contrive something!" It was at the table on

the steamer that Khanbekov said this phrase, that is, "you will contrive something!" in the presence of Feodorov and Dobroshtanov. Dobroshtanov, without any - I now know - replied: "why so, he already has contrived it!" Again, however, I made the wrong conclusion, in favor of Khanbekov - that is, that Khanbekov speaks the truth, even though he is a villain. In a word, at the time of our arrival in Paris, having tormented me almost a month, he had almost won his point, I believed him up to 80%. Chamrov assisted in this to a great extent. I could not hide my condition and he, of course, could see that something was wrong with me, but he reacted in favor of Khanbekov. In this respect, Feodorov proved himself very correct and earnest. He is the only person who did not annoy me.

During our stay in Paris, Chamrov's attitude towards me became so much worse that he plainly began to hate me, which fact he could not hide, - perhaps did not wish to hide it, - I do not know. In the Paris naphta syndicate Chamrov, I surmised, even now I believe so, said something about me to Tsukerman. The latter knew me by sight, but thought that I did not know him, therefore, whenever we met he inspected me with hateful eyes. Finally I was convinced that I am a person who is deeply despised by Chamrov, and that all that this villain -Khanbekov - is whispering, is true. Thus, everything broke in my brain, was it insanity? I do not know, you are the judge - I write only the real truth.

In order that you may understand the condition I was in and the meanness through which Khanbekov gained his point, I shall relate an incident which occurred in a

Paris restaurant. At the table were I, that snake, Chamrov and Arutyunov. Wine was ordered. I refuse to drink (because of my illness). All question me as to why I do not drink. Khanbekov, continuing his revenge, says: "Brother, you drink - it makes your soul merry, and you seem to be melancholy always;" and further "But look, the owner of this restaurant is a countryman of Khachaturov - he is a Turkish Armenian. Oh, I know these Turkish Armenians since my Crimea days. All of them are swindlers. Why, Feodor Pavlovich, once there was an incident like this; listen. In the Crimea one of them was selling a little bag of gold coins. He sold them - and what do you think - on the top there were gold coins, on the bottom were false ones." Arutyunov, not noticing that the ammunition was directed specially against me - and perhaps he did know this (I cannot say) - agrees: "Yes, Feodor Pavlovich, they are, in general, a hopeless people and not to be trusted." And all laugh. After this incident I thought it necessary to ask Arutyunov not to bother me, therefore, in the evening I went to his room and directly told him not to repeat similar conversations. He, to be sure, realized his injustice, asked my pardon and promised that he would not do it again. From him I went to Khanbekov and began to ask his forgiveness if I ever had done him a wrong, and (I am ashamed to admit) began to beg him almost on my knees so that he would leave me alone and not annoy me. Neither my humiliation, nor my entreaties helped any. He simply put me out of his room, saying: "You scheme and analyze in your own room". At the present time I am thinking of this and am ashamed

that

that I was able to so humble myself and beg this villain. It is incomprehensible. It means that this person actually succeeded in driving me mad and through his cunning nature gained his point.

Finally, I decided that I must explain myself to Chamrov and tell him of my condition, so that he would know that they are dealing with a sick man, perhaps even an insane man, ready for anything. Therefore, I told him about my trouble (my illness) and about the fact that I was in very difficult circumstances, secretly hoping that I would meet with some help. But, unfortunately, I had made a big mistake, I received no support from him, but his hatred for me for some reason increased even more. Why I met with such treatment, I do not know, evidently the influence of Khanbekov, with whom at this time he was very intimate (about this I will write later). Therefore, I decided that I could not go on, that I must do away with myself, which to my regret, I did so futilely in Paris in the hotel "Royal Monso". Before going to sleep, I took about one gram of opium, which I had bought in New York through the Antorg doctor. To my surprise, this did not do the work, the following day they succeeded in waking me and I bore all the pain of reaction secretly. In the morning I had a characteristic conversation with Khanbekov. When I had arisen, Khanbekov said: "Feodor Pavlovich knocked and knocked and could not awaken you, therefore he went away, convinced that you were not in your room and that you were prowling about Paris all night." Could Chamrov really have said that I prowl around Paris at night. Later, Khanbekov began to use

this

this incident to torment me, saying: "Do you know what the communists said to me when I was going abroad. Mind, Gessen Khristoforovich, it is best not to go through Paris, or you might be suspected, and, you know, there is a law in the U.S.S.R. (of course, not in the criminal code, but a secret law of the G.P.U.) that when under suspicion if one is unable to establish the truth, - it means shooting, regardless of anything. You are in wrong, Chamrov thinks that you were out alone in Paris at night, that you were doing something in a counter-revolutionary nest itself." To my reply that it was all nonsense, that he and Arutyunov will be able to say that they awakened me and that I was soundly asleep, this snake added: "And you think they will believe that; you might have come into your room after Chamrov left."

During these days I was in such a state that I was not able to do anything. Neither write a letter home, nor buy anything, I did everything mechanically. I hadn't a thought of remaining abroad. Whenever I met Khanbekov, he tormented me: "scheme and analyze. The devil, one must be cheerful, tonight I shall dance the foxtrot, the chief and I are going to the dance hall." In the evening, in order to appear cheerful, I went with them, i.e., with Chamrov and Khanbekov, to the dance hall, but no good came out of it for me. Khanbekov burned up the foxtrot, while I sat as though my mouth were full of water. To my words that I hate Paris and do not like dances, in general, they smiled spitefully, letting it be understood that I speak exactly the opposite of what I feel. Chamrov announced: "One must know how to do the foxtrot, but you do not know how, that is why you do not get on well."

All this distressed me even more. I wonder

. This is spoken by a man who knows both mine and Khanbekov's worth as a worker. He knows my capacity for work, which he employed to further his careerist aims. It was my own thoughts and articles, which I wrote at night, he signed and, pretending they were his own, sent them to newspapers and journals. I was very ill.

On the day of our departure from Paris - after dinner - I met Chamrov and had the following conversation with him. The subject was the fact that Arutyunov had misplaced his Belgian visa (later it developed that Khanbekov had it by mistake). No, I do not remember the entire conversation, but I remember that he said that perhaps someone may remain in Paris. To my surprised query as to what he means by this remark, he replied: "Why yes, it may be that unexpectedly someone may remain." I said nothing, but wondered why he says all this to me. So, I made my own conclusion - that is, that Khanbekov speaks the truth - and became more disconcerted. This is all the more inexcusable on Chamrov's part because I had told him of my sufferings.

These were the conditions when we left Paris for Berlin and I comforted myself with the thought^{that}/if I am patient 7 - 8 days, I shall be in Moscow, will finally rid myself of this villain, Khanbekov, and perhaps begin to cure myself. All would have been as I planned, had it not been for the events in Berlin. I had not a thought of remaining.

In Berlin, it was the same thing, dancing again, Chamrov casting hateful glances at me and openly saying that I am lonesome for Paris. If he is an honorable

man,

can, he will confirm this - he said it to me in the dance hall in which we were when we first arrived in Berlin. Khanbekov was dancing the fox-trot, and the prostitute sitting with us asked me why I was gloomy. Shearov said: "He is lonesome for Paris." Yes, and perhaps I hated Paris more than anyone else did, - my life previous to this will serve as proof of this.

On the second day after our arrival in Berlin, Arutyunov and I (I know absolutely no German) went to the doctor so that he could examine me. The latter examined me and said that I was very unwise to have neglected my illness to such a point and that inflammation had begun. As a matter of fact, within a day I fell quite ill and had a temperature of 39-39.5 degrees. The following morning, upon seeing me, Khanbekov asked me for my passport in order to get me a Polish visa, and added: "And shall I buy you a ticket for Moscow or for Magereloe?" I asked him what he meant by that. He replied "nothing" and laughingly said "anyhow, brother, to Moscow you'll ride not in a sleeping car, but in a grated wagon!"

Our rooms were adjoining - this conversation took place in his and Arutyunov's room. I said that I would leave my passport on my table, that I had to go to the doctor. I went into my room and instead of the passport I left a note on the table: "Do not look for me, I am ending my life by committing suicide - you will find out through the papers," and went out with the firm intention to throw myself under a train. But it is not very easy to end one's life and on the street I began to wonder why I had chosen such a difficult way; one can, for example, take opium again, but 3 grams of it, et cetera. Suffering thus,

and

and cursing myself, after 2 hours I came to my senses. The note was in its place; I went to bed. At 4 o'clock Chumrov came to me and asked: "Is it true that you did not give your passport to Khanbekov?" I answered: "yes" (even though this was not altogether right). He said: "Very, very bad". I answered, showing him the certificate from the doctor, that I had to stay in bed and I must not travel: "Feodor Pavlovich, you see, I have a temperature, here is the certificate from the doctor, yesterday Shestakov was here and we took my temperature. It was more than 38. I shall depart tomorrow." The answer was: "You'll show your certificate in Moscow. Very, very bad." He looked sternly and went. On this day they were to depart. At 6 o'clock Khanbekov telephoned me: "Feodor Pavlovich wants 60 dollars from you". I replied: "Go to the devil, you villain. Chumrov knows that I am ill, I might need the money." "Fedor Pavlovich, listen to the way he talks," was what I heard through the telephone receiver. I never saw them again. Before departing, Arutyunov came in and said good-bye. But Chumrov and Khanbekov did not come.

The following day I got worse, evidently my temperature had risen even higher. Someone from the naphta syndicate came to me demanding 20 dollars for my ticket. I begin to think that no one cares that I am ill, one wants 60, another, 20 dollars. Chumrov himself had warned me that in Germany I would not receive a cent. My position is uncertain, maybe I shall have to stay in bed 2 days, maybe that will take \$20. Where shall I get the money to doctor myself. At this time I had 227 dollars in all. I refused to pay the naphta syndicate. I was able to get out of bed only on the third day. How it happened

that

that I did not leave on this day, I do not know. Was I afraid? Yes, I was very much afraid that I would be the 23rd - but what for? Insanity, cowardliness, - that also I do not know. If I were not able to overcome my feeling and return in 3 or 5 days, then it was even harder the 6th day, etc. At this time my visa expired, therefore I went to the Berlin authorities for a permanent visa, I was refused and given a visa good only until January 1. Through accident, I still had my American visa, precisely by accident. When I was asked for it in the Amtorg, I did not have it with me, it was in my room, and when on the following day ^I brought it to Vasiliev, he said the Amtorg did not want it. And so, I had this visa through accident. What was I to do? It seemed that I could not return to the Union - the turn of events was such that I was under the influence of Khanbekov - I could not remain in Germany, so I decided to commit suicide, but was not able to do it because this can be done only at a given moment and when one has everything in one's hands. Therefore, I went to the American consulate and learned that the visa was good for admission into America for one year. I bought a ticket for New York from Bremen. I paid 170 dollars for it. I went to Bremen, but reconsidered and came back to Berlin so that I might go back to the Union. In this manner I lost 25 dollars, as the steamship company retained 10% of the value of the ticket. In Berlin I went to Volodkin, but did not find him home, he lives in the same building where the naphta syndicate is located. Again I reconsidered and went to Hamburg, where I bought a ticket to New York for 174 dollars. Finally, I reconsidered again when boarding the steamer,

but

but I was told that the company would not refund my money and that only through a court trial, if one were successful, was it possible to obtain a portion of it. Thus, after ten days, with two dollars in my pocket, I landed in New York; by mere chance I missed the island. How did I do all this, plainly conscious that I was not vexing Khanbekov, but the working class, not Chamrov, but the Soviet power, my native land, absolutely innocent people, my relatives, not Khanbekov, but all young engineers, that I was sowing dissent in industry, that I am making the relations between the workers and the engineers even worse, that this is inconveniencing and harming industrialization. I think that at this time I was kept from committing suicide by the struggles of life. If I had in my pocket not 2 dollars, but 1000, I would have ended my life, but the struggle kept me back. At this time I wanted to go to Bron and tell him everything and ask him to send me to the U.S.S.R., but I was afraid and did not wish to create a political scandal. Perhaps Bron would not talk to me as a communist, he might do something foolish, - communicate with the police, I would be arrested as having entered the country illegally (bailed by Amtorg), it would be found out that I was a refugee, and how it all would end, I do not know. Apparently, a political scandal. I was extremely afraid of this; of course, not for myself, but that it might bring harm to the Soviet government.

I repeat that only the struggles of life kept me from committing suicide. A month after my arrival I already had a firm footing, I had lived this long and had about 100 dollars in my pocket. In New York, casually loafing and waiting near Amtorg, I saw Kokh - a capitalist, who furnishes and builds large plants for us. I followed him and discovered that he

lived

lived in the Pennsylvania Hotel, where I went the following morning. I told him that I wanted to live in America and offered my services. To this he replied that he needed constructing engineers badly, but that I could not do the work now because I did not know the language very well. But if I would promise not to go away within 2 months, he would give me a job in my line, and I could pick my duty now until I learned the language better. I agreed. Why do I write you this? - in order to show my psychology. In other words, my struggle with life was at an end (I could already earn the wretched dollars), there remained only my crime. Thus, I landed in the city of Findlay in the state of Ohio. I came here the day before yesterday. Now you have the entire truth.

Just now I am in doubt and wonder why I do all this, since after I am dead I won't care. They will read what I have written, will laugh, will think: oh, what a fool, - and here the matter will end. No, No! It must not be so. Let them explain my crime as they wish, only not as a struggle with the working class. If my ideology were against the working class I would continue to live, I am young, I am full of strength, energy, knowledge, I am not lacking money, I have the opportunity to work in my direct vocation, etc. If I were your enemy, I would continue to live. The entire tragedy lies in the fact that my ideology does not permit me to serve the capitalists. That is not the purpose for which I acquired all my knowledge, for which I worked so hard! It is better for me to die, than to go against my convictions. Capitalism is a society of jackals and every member of this society strives to cheat his neighbor.

All this, of course, is surrounded by the appropriate rules of decency, but this is unconditionally the foundation. Has anyone ever in a position like mine. I think not. If by this letter I expiate at least a little the wrong which I have done to my state, to all the Grozny engineers - especially the young ones - then even so it is well. In my position I see no other way out. If I go back not a word I say will be believed, and I cannot explain myself verbally. When in conversation I would casually refer to the Americans as shop-keepers and expressed the opinion that in a few years they would come to us not as teachers, but as students, Chamrov - "the responsible communist" - would change the subject. He was convinced that I was being sarcastic as against my convictions and apparently this was unpleasant to him. He was of the opinion that since I am an engineer, therefore, everything I say in favor of socialism is sarcasm. Chamrov is not the only one who shared this view. Take, for instance, the director of the economic division of the G.P.U., Kupr - nov - a very responsible person. He at times asked me: "Is it true that all the engineers speak of the mine trial as something invented by the G.P.U." And when I objected, and said that he was very wrong, that such things cannot be invented and that not all engineers think it is an invention, he only laughed cynically; of course, he included me also with those who think that the mine court trial is an invention of the G.P.U. Upon reading these lines, perhaps one will think that I am writing to the G.P.U. a denouncement of the G.P.U. He who thinks so is an idiot and a fool. In the first place I am not writing a denouncement for the reason that it is immaterial to me how this reacts, in the second place,

individual

individual persons cannot represent either the G.P.U. or, least of all, the Soviet power. I write of the rust which is found even in ideally planned mechanisms.

Upon reading these lines one may turn to the other extreme and say: there, they have ruined a man who was a good communist. This also is a deep error. I am the customary, partless engineer of Soviet make; never having struggled against the Soviet power, never having experienced any hatred for it, at times I did whimper, was dissatisfied, not understanding and erring I argued and acquired the hatred of individual persons, who also made errors. And so life went on and my ideology was drawn out. I, for example, never knew that my native Soviet social order was so deeply rooted in me. In general, I was for communism and did not like capitalism. I did not ^{myself} trouble/about the fine points of politics, in fact, I did not think about them. I was dissatisfied with black bread, with one or another privation, or when I lacked money, and was happy when I ate white Soviet bread, or when we were opening a new factory, etc. There are at the present time thousands and thousands of such engineers in the U.S.S.R. They are not communists, nevertheless they hate capitalism, work honestly and think little about the fine points of politics. They do not like the fact that the workers treat them badly and are pleased with the successes, etc., etc. If there is a real hatred, its instigators are persons whose number is insignificant in the U.S.S.R. at the present time. They are the engineers who from the very beginning have sowed distrust and dissent. Some criminals like Chamrov and Khanbekov, deepen this hatred through their behavior; others, such as I, submitting to

this

this influence, become even worse criminals, and even more so distrust and evil. The only thing I do not understand is why I submitted to the whisperings of that snake, and why Chamrov carried such an attitude toward me. Was it the influence of that villain? All my later crimes, after I had remained abroad, I understand - I had to go somewhere, I had to do something - and this is what I did: I looked for work, I went to America, etc., etc. During my journey from Berlin to Bremen (my first journey, when I had decided) I was pursued by the maliciously smiling image of that snake and Chamrov's eyes looking at me with hatred, exactly as he had looked at me in the dance hall in Berlin, when I sat gloomily staring at my plate. I could think of nothing else. Neither employment, nor my work, nor my wife, nor my parents, nothing came to my mind. I only thought about them and "analyzed, analyzed and analyzed", to use the words of that snake. Whenever I became normal, I immediately directed my thoughts to the U.S.S.R. In this connection, even while in Bremen I reconsidered twice. At first I decided to go back to the U.S.S.R. and bought a return ticket from Bremen to Berlin, then, in five minutes I again fell under the influence and returned the ticket to the office. Then, within five minutes I again decided to go home and again bought a ticket to Berlin and if the train to Berlin had not left in 15 minutes, I think that I again would have reconsidered. In general, regardless of what I did, I remained dissatisfied and followed one or another decision only when it was impossible to change it.

I am afraid that you will think I am trying to justify myself - why, in what sense. No, I only write the absolute truth,

truth, perhaps not in much detail, for I haven't the patience. I consider as most important all the circumstances up to the commission of my crime, i.e., the moment when I recovered from my illness and was already afraid to go back. All that followed has no special significance - for example, in Berlin I went to a "Russian University," where I saw one Prof. Yasinski, and asked him for a job, etc. I wish to say one thing to you and that is that I deeply, deeply hate all emigrants, all that dirt and rot, who are busy hurling slops at their country and dream of the return of times.

I know that in connection with my assignment the people who nominated me may suffer. But they are entirely without fault.

Entirely blameless also are my unfortunate wife and parents, who may suffer most because of that villain.

Before my death I beg forgiveness from the Grozny workers, who always trusted me, I beg forgiveness from the engineers, in particular the young Soviet engineers, as I have stained their honor. I beg forgiveness of the Soviet power as a whole for the political injury which I have done to industrialization, but I swear that it is insanity, and not a political crime - before my death I shall not lie for anything. I beg forgiveness from my wife, my parents, and all my kin, for the shame which I bring upon them.

Before my death I forgive Chazrov everything, who, after all, perhaps was under the influence of that villain, but I cannot forgive Khanbekov - that snake. Therefore, I die cursing him - my blood will be on his conscience. On his conscience, all the suffering, and perhaps the

life, of my wife and parents.

I beg very much that if the G.P.U. finds it possible, it forward the attached letter to my wife.

I am sending all my things and money to the Amtorg, considering them under detention. If the court finds it possible, I beg very much that they be forwarded to my unfortunate wife, in the event of her death, to my parents.

I have so arranged it that this letter of mine may come directly into the hands of the President of the Amtorg personally, who shall send it to the U.S.S.R., together with my passport and my letters to my wife.

Once more I ask for forgiveness.

Senior Constructing Engineer of the State Trust

"Grozneft":

V. Khachaturov.

February 28, 1930.

City of Findlay,
State of Ohio.

I find it very difficult and I more than anyone else sharply feel the horror of all that I have done, since I belong to the national minorities, which the whites hate so and which only the Soviet government has recognized as having equal rights and has done so much for them. Oh, how difficult it is!

I especially beg the forgiveness of the workers of the 1st and 5th factories, who knew me so well, trusted me, and with whom I have worked for so many years. Before my

death

death, I beg the G.P.U. to inform the Grozny workers that I swear that I never was their enemy and that I beg their forgiveness. I swear that I, just as much as they, hate all capitalists and cannot work for them - I prefer death.

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

905 Federal Reserve Bank Bldg.
Kansas City, Missouri.

December 19th, 1930.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

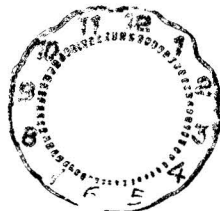
RE: V. A. Hatchatouroff (Deceased),
Radical Matters,
K. C. File No. 62-541.

Receipt is acknowledged of Bureau letter dated December 11th, 1930 in the above entitled matter. The papers and documents which were loaned to this office by Coroner Heckman, Wichita, Kansas, have been received from the State Department and are on this date being returned to Coroner Heckman with thanks for his cooperation and assistance in this case.

Very truly yours,

M. T. Little
M. T. Little, Acting
Special Agent in Charge.

mtl-nj



DEC 23 1930

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

El Paso, Texas,
January 27, 1931.

Director,
Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Re: PETER BOURLAKOFF; P. VASILIEV;
D. YURKINOV - Espionage Matter.

Dear Sir:

In regard to the above named subjects, please find attached hereto a copy of a communication dated December 19, 1930 addressed to Special Agent M. Sorola of this office by Police Officer Charles S. Griffith of Douglas, Ariz., together with copy of a letter addressed to the said special agent under date of January 20, 1931 by the said police officer relative to the above named individuals.

This matter is being forwarded to the Bureau as of possible interest.

Very truly yours,

J. P. MacFarland
J. P. MacFarland,
Special Agent in Charge.

JPM:bg
Enc.

2
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C O P Y

THE CITY OF DOUGLAS

Douglas, Arizona,

1250-15th St.

Dec. 19th, 1930.

Mr. M. Sorola,

El Paso, Tex.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the conversation I had with you this A.M. regarding the men I gave you the names of, I will go a little into detail of why I think they might be Russian agents. If you were not too busy at the time and have read the newspaper accounts of the actions of the Russian Co called The Amtorg Trading and Commercial Co in New York City, you will have seen that their purpose was not all together commercial, and you may have seen the statements of two or three of their officials who had severed their connections with them. It was also brought out that there were some thirty-odd agents of the secret police of Russia called the "Ogpu" were also in this country. Now these men I told you of registered from New York city, they were not riff raff, but had the appearance of educated men, were dressed in good taste, and seemed well supplied with money. Their actions while here, outside of holding conversations with no one outside of that Creek, and when they saw my star when I came into the coffee shop, they seemed to me to be watching me closely, their trips out to the smelters every day instead of riding, it struck me that it was just possible that they might be some of the "Ogpu". And that their purpose might be to get a rough draft of Industrial plants for future use, and of labor conditions. Also that the other agents might be doing the same in other party of the

2.

country, and where they saw a chance, to stir up trouble also. I hope I have not taken up too much of your valueable time with my ideas,

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) Chas. S. Griffith

(over)

Of course I realize I may be all wrong, but I just thought I would mention it to you on just a chance I might be right.

COPY

1250-15th St.

Douglas, Arizona,

Jan. 20th, 1931.

Mr. M. Sorola,

El Paso, Tex.

Dear Sir:

Since writting you I happened to remember that the Supt of the C & A Smelter was a friend of mine, so I took up with him those three men I wrote you about and he went over thier records, but neither had been out to the smelter.

In June of this year they had a Russian by the name Mr. Peter Bourlakoff a Metallurgical Engineer of the Zwetmetmetzoloto Trust, who came with a letter from Mr. J.B.Cooper, manager Phoenix Office, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co.

On the 16th, this month, two men were called to my attention as being at the hotel.

The men came from Bisbee and registered here Jan. 16th, this year.

I phoned my friend at the smelter and found that he had left a note at the Police Station for me and in this note he said that two men had been to the plant Sunday, the 18th and gave their names as follows. P. Vasiliev. M.E. and D. Yukhtanov of the Non-Ferrous Metal Corporation, Moscow, also their cards showed the name, Amtorg Trading Corp. N.Y. These are the men that were here at the Gadsden. They registered here Jan. 16th and checked out Jan. 19th and as near as I can find out they must have gone back to Bisbee, as they had no baggage here and I presume they left it at bisbee. The only thing in the way of baggage they had was one had a small box that looked like some kind of a camera, and the other had a brief case. The best description that I can get of them is as follows: #1 - 5' 8" tall, about 160 lbs. #2 - 5' 10" tall, about 170 lbs. Both dark complected, black hats, crushed in at top. Smallest had dark overcoat, largest had a mottled overcoat, both mining engineers, spoke very little english. You will note that they are both evidently connected with The Amtorg Trading Co. of N.Y. which does not look good to me.

Hope I have not taken up too much of your valuable time. Should any more of these kind of birds show up will shoot it in to you.

Yours truly,

Chas. S. Griffith.

COPY

4 noted

61 no

61-5381-101
67-2-9

15-~~ER~~

JEH:MO'B

March 18, 1931.

~~PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL~~

(U)

Mr. Robert F. Kelley,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kelley:

att
I am enclosing herewith a ~~confiden-~~
~~tial~~ memorandum which has been sent to me by a
friend of mine in New York, who informs me that
his source of his information he believes to be
entirely reliable. If such a condition exists
as indicated in the attached memorandum, it might
be worthy of some inquiry for it practically
creates almost a state of sequestration. I realize
that it is a rather delicate situation to make
any inquiry about, but I thought I should bring
it to your attention. If there is any action
you desire me to take, I will be very glad to
comply with your wishes.

Very truly yours,

Encl.

Director.

RECORDED & INDEXED



61-5381-44

COPY

MEMORANDUM.

There is said to be a patient in the hospital in Plainfield, New Jersey, who has been working as an engineer for Amtorg, and is over here on a limited passport. The man's wife is alleged to have said that they were compelled to leave Russia for she had talked rather recklessly there, and, consequently, an arrangement was made to send them to this country to work for Amtorg at a nominal salary under penalty that if the subject left the employ of Amtorg or refused to work for the pay allotted to him, the State Department would be advised that his temporary passport should be cancelled and the man returned to Russia, where he is under sentence of death. The informant states that these people claim that there are a number of other persons employed by Amtorg working under exactly the same conditions.

March 17, 1931.

61-5381-44

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

Post office Box #251
Grand Central Station
New York City

CCS:RS


July 28, 1931

Director
Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For the information of the Bureau files, there is transmitted herewith a copy of an article appearing in the New York Times under date of July 18, 1931 relative to a tax assessment made by the Internal Revenue Bureau against the Lantorg Trading Corporation.

Very truly yours,


E. J. CONNELLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

/ Encl.
7-28-31

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUL 28 1931

11/13
12/11

AMTORG SEEKS CUT IN TAX ASSESSMENT

*Corporation Asks Reduction in
Income for Amounts Paid to
Soviet Government.*

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, July 17. — An assessment against the Amtorg Trading Corporation of New York of \$23,846 additional income taxes for the year ended Sept. 30, 1929, by the Internal Revenue Bureau was disclosed today when the Soviet sales agency filed a petition with the Board of Tax Appeals for a redetermination of the deficiency.

The Internal Revenue Commissioner, the petition said, disallowed a deduction of \$211,970, which represented excise taxes payable to the Russian Government.

The Internal Revenue Bureau notified the petitioner that the deduction was disallowed because it represented "operating profits distributed to the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics."

Amtorg represented that all of its stock was held in trust for the Bank of Foreign Trade of the Soviet. As all of the stock of this bank was not owned by the Soviet Union, the payments were not divided and should have been allowed as taxes or the expense of conducting the business, the corporation contended in its appeal.

The reported income of the Amtorg Corporation for 1929 amounted to \$171,149. The bureau readjusted the income to \$391,905.

The bureau also refused a deduction of \$5,334, said to have been paid to S. G. Bron, president of Amtorg, for entertainment purposes.

Donations of amounts ranging from \$5 to \$50 to the Railroad Yardmasters' Association, the Railroad Express Employees' Association, the Officers Association New York Fire Department, the Order of Railway Clerks, "Thomas W. Lamont, treasurer," and the Firemen's Association also were disallowed. These were classed by Amtorg as miscellaneous expenses.

As the case goes before the tax board, however, only the refusal of the bureau to allow the \$211,970 deduction from income will be contested.

The case raises an interesting point of law, in the opinion of experts, complicated by the fact that the Soviet Union is not diplomatically recognized by the United States and by the controversy over importations from Russia.

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

P. O. Box 1405
Chicago, Illinois

JAN-21932 AM

December 31, 1931

JAN 6 - 1932

Director
Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL (U)
RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Re: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Victor I. Nydele, 505 Belmont Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, telephone, Franklin 5792, called at the Chicago Bureau Office on December 30, 1931, and stated that he was a construction engineer, and was head of the Nydele Building Construction Company, General Contractors, 111 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois; that he had constructed the Belmont Plaza Apartment Hotel, located at 505 Belmont Avenue, and had taken this hotel over because of default in payments, and was operating this hotel at the present time; that a Mr. N. Saakiauz and a Mr. I. Gordeer, who were Vice-Presidents of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, a corporation engaged in purchasing supplies and handling other business for the Soviet Government in Russia, had recently engaged suites in his hotel, having come to Chicago from New York City; that these parties both contemplate bringing their families from New York City to reside at the hotel, and have also made arrangements with him to house transient guests, whom they expect to visit them at various intervals from New York City.

Mr. Nydele stated that he has been connected with interests which are engaged in construction work in Russia, and that he has been interested in securing contracts for construction work in Russia, and that he believes that these parties evidently selected his place because of the fact that he had some connection with construction firms which had performed work in Russia. Mr. Nydele further stated that he is an ex-service man and belongs to the Advertising Post of the American Legion, and that it occurred to him that he might be in a position at some future date to cooperate with the Government, if the Government desired, to secure information concerning any persons connected with the Amtorg Trading Corporation, who might be stopping at his hotel. He also stated that his call to this office was induced by the fact that he might be criticized at some time for housing persons connected with the Russian Government

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- 2 -

at his hotel, and for this reason he desired to call at this office and make it a matter of record that he is willing to co-operate with the Government at any time in securing any information which may be available to him as a result of having these persons, tenants in his hotel.

Mr. Nydele was advised that this matter would be made of record, as it might be possible that at some future date, his connection would prove valuable to the Government.

The above is submitted for the information of the Bureau.

Very truly yours,


E. P. GUINANE, Acting
Special Agent in Charge.

EPG:RS

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

N
U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

CAA:EMF

July 14, 1932.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

While I was in New York, Special Agent O'Donnell furnished some confidential information obtained from one of the patriotic organizations opposing Communism, as follows:

Business of Amtorg has dropped 86% to date.

Year 1929 to 1930 Soviet had adverse trade balance of \$10,000,000, which it settled for in gold.

Year 1930 to 1931 Soviet had adverse trade balance of \$125,000,000, which it settled for in gold.

Year 1931 to 1932 Soviet had adverse trade balance of \$300,000,000. It has on hand just \$300,000,000 to discharge this obligation, after which the coffers will be empty.

Respectfully,

caappel
C. A. Appel.

61-5381
RECEIVED
JUL 16 1932

61-5381
JUL 15 1932 C.M.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON

Business of armory has dropped 86% to date

Year

1929 to 1930 Soviet had adverse trade balance of \$10 000 000
which it settled for in gold

" 1930 to 1931 Soviet had adverse trade balance of \$25 000 000
which it settled for in gold

" 1931 to 1932 Soviet had adverse trade balance of \$30 000 000
It has on hand just \$30 000 000 to discharge
this obligation after which the coffers will be empty.

U. S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

625 Lafayette Building,
Detroit, Michigan,
July 14, 1932.

Director,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

John A. Mortz, Wayne County Prosecutor's office investigator, Detroit, has furnished information relative to activities on the part of the Russian Government which he believes should be in possession of the proper Federal officials. Mr. Mortz informed that Mr. Lester P. Dodd, 1604 Dime Bank Building, Detroit, Attorney for the Bud Manufacturing Co., informed him on or about June 25, 1932 that Fred D. Edgar, Detroit, mechanical engineer, now unemployed, had been successful in securing ~~secret~~ information relative to a patented process used by the Bud Company in the cold-rolling of steel.

That he had learned that Edgar had furnished this information to a representative of the Russian Government. Mr. Mortz advised that he then had Edgar brought into his office for questioning at which time Edgar advised that he had been out of work for the past two years and that he was formerly chief engineer of the Deisel motor department of the Packard Motor Co., and has held various positions as a mechanical engineer for several years. Mortz stated he believed Edgar should be interviewed by an agent of the Bureau.

On July 11, 1932 Fred J. Edgar was interviewed in the office of Mr. Mortz and advised that he resides at 1253 Balfour St., Grosse Point Park, Detroit, Michigan. He advised that through his position as engineer in charge of the deisel engine department of the Packard Motor Co., Detroit, he has been able to make many friends and acquaintances who hold responsible positions with manufacturers who produce various patented mechanical devices. He stated that about two years ago, while employed by the Packard Motor Co. he met a Mr. Markoff, Vice-President of Armatog, New York City, the buying corporation of the Russian Government through which all business with American manufacturers is transacted; that about a year and a half ago the Deisel Engine Department of the Packard Motor Co. was closed and he has been partly unemployed since that time.

100-5381

20

JUL 21 1932

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 13 1932 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
WATKINS	FILE

Div. Four

Mr. Edgar informed that soon after the temporary closing of Packard's Deisel Engine Department he applied for a position as mechanical engineer to Mr. Markoff, Vice-President of Armatog; that he received no reply to his application but in May of this year a stranger called him by telephone at his home and stated that he was a friend of Mr. Markoff and that he desired an audience concerning an important matter. Mr. Edgar stated that he met this individual, who is a Russian, on a downtown street corner at which time a letter purporting to be from Mr. Markoff was presented to him which advised that he should feel free in furnishing any information and assistance possible to the bearer of the letter.

Edgar stated that he has had about ten meetings with this individual on street corners and at his home since that time and has learned that this Russian's name is Mr. V. Dimitroff; that when corresponding with Dimitroff he has been requested to use coded phrases in his letters - to address him as "Bill" and to sign his letters as "Jack". He stated that he has been informed by Dimitroff that his organization has six different addresses in New York City where mail is called for daily but that his actual address is not known to anyone.

Mr. Edgar furnished a specimen of a group of problems given him by Dimitroff which information he has obtained from various sources and furnished Dimitroff by mail. These problems are being attached to this letter for the Bureau's information. The problems deal with information relative to the lighting of aerodromes, shooting and bomb throwing apparatus on aircraft and other aeronautical information. He stated that the most important information he has been able to furnish Dimitroff was the cross section diagram of the patented machine used by the Bud Manufacturing Co., Detroit, whereby steel is cold-rolled; that Dimitroff was extremely anxious to secure this information in order that a giant Russian tractor plant may manufacture steel disc wheels without the heating process.

Mr. Edgar advised that on July 10 Dimitroff called him at his home and requested that a meeting be arranged at once; that he met Dimitroff on the corner of Jos. Campeau and E. Jefferson Ave. and was introduced to another Russian as "Friend"; that "Friend" is unusually well educated and appears to be an expert aeronautical engineer. He stated that "Friend" and Dimitroff talked about the new dirigible being built at Akron and of the Great Lakes Aircraft Corporation at Cleveland; also of the submarine base at New London, Conn., and how important it is that Russia obtain the latest fighting equipment. He advised that Dimitroff made this statement: "Edgar, you have been given small stuff until now - we believe you are trustworthy and are in a position to secure big stuff for us".

3.

Edgar stated that Dimitroff then gave him \$140.00 in cash for expense money and told him to proceed to New London, Conn., where he should meet "Friend" and attempt to secure the following:

- Q. 22. There is a wide use lately of acoustic apparatus (Gidrophone) or sound catchers on submarines and ships. Very important to obtain detailed plan and description of newest achievement in this field.
- Q. 23. The torpedo from submarines is fired by compressed air - by this means, after the torpedo leaves the apparatus, there emerges to the surface of the water a large air bubble which indicates the locality of the submarine at the time of firing. It is known that this undesirable appearance is liquidated by means of a certain device. Verify if this is true and obtain description and plan of this device.

Mr. Edgar advised that he is acquainted with a Mr. C. A. Franzen, Groton, Conn., who is superintendent of the New London Boat and Engineering Corporation which has built submarines for the Russian Government in the past and which is actively engaged in the building of submarines for the U.S. Navy; that he believes he will be able to secure much of this information from Mr. Franzen but that if he is unable to secure the information from him, Dimitroff has suggested that they make attempts to secure the information at the U.S. Submarine Base at New London.

He stated he has also been instructed to get information relative to an air purifier, water distiller, used by the U.S. Navy and a submarine diesel engine.

Edgar advised that Dimitroff informed him that the Russian Government has furnished approximately \$15,000.00 or \$20,000.00 for the obtaining of the information listed above. He also stated that he has received between \$400.00 and \$600.00 at various times from Dimitroff for the answers to the questions submitted to him.

Edgar further advises that he does not desire to become involved in any difficulty in securing information for the Russians and that he would discontinue his contacts with them at once were it not for his belief that he would be given an important assignment by the Russians in the near future which might involve either the dirigible now being built at Akron or some other important phase of national defense. He stated that to date the information he has given to the Russians has not been of any consequence and that it could have been obtained by anyone with good contacts and a knowledge of engineering. However, he stated that he intends

4.

to proceed to New London and will report any information he receives to the Detroit office, upon his return. He further stated that he has been instructed to wire H. Mitchell, 219 Seventh Avenue, New York City, upon his arrival in New London and upon the receipt of this telegram "Friend" will immediately proceed to New London and contact him at a place yet to be determined. Edgar advised that he can be reached in New London at the main Western Union office, if necessary.

This information is being furnished the Bureau for whatever value it may have and for whatever action the Bureau may desire to take in the premises.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm. Larson".

Wm. Larson,
Special Agent in Charge.

RDB:bg

17. It is very important to obtain materials about the central power station for planes.

The growth of tonnage, the size, the shooting and bombthrowing apparatus on aircrafts brings new problems in the field of electrification of planes. Accumulators and small dynamos, working from a windpower are not sufficient enough.

It requires independent sources of Electro-energy with a gasmotor as a primary motive-power with special dynamos, guaranteeing all the consumers of the electro-energy on the plane, from the radio to the heating system, electrification of the armament, bombthrowing, revolving of the planes and turret tower.

Important to obtain.

- a) Power of the station, type of current, tension.
- b) blue prints, weight, dimensions, method of mounting.
- c) What primo-motor is placed in the power-station with a compressor cylinder for air starting airplane motors. The primo-motor is 6 with 3000 revolution per minute. Firms making this primo-motor
- d) Dynamo, weight, dimensions, method of attachment, mounting.

18. Electro-lighting installations of sea-aerodromes. This problem consists of two principal parts.

1. Illumination of the startplace.
2. Illumination of the coast buildings.
3. Illumination for guarding.
4. Illumination for signaling.

The most important is the illumination of the starting places.

Important to obtain.

1. Detailed plans and drawing of electro-lighting equipment of sea airports.
2. Detailed description methods of connection of the command point with the airplane and reverse.
3. Detailed description and plans of methods of lighting the place.
4. Blue prints and plans, also the mounting system of lighting starting place.
5. Detailed information; What is done to prevent the water surface of sea airdromes from soiling.

Page (3)

19. Landing means on seaplanes.

The landing means for airplanes are: Landing search-light, underwing magnesium skyrockets., which are always kept on and which could be used at any time in case of forced landing.

These means are not applicable for seaplanes. They don't give any effort, because by lighting the water with straight rays of light and the necessary visibility is not obtained.

In the English practice there were cases when parachute rockets thrown down from seaplanes in emergency. These parachute rockets mark areas of water, the surface of which was visible.

Our problem is to obtain:

- I. The firms making these landing means.
- II. What are those means: Are they projectors or not? give a full description of these means and devices.
- III. What landing means are used on Navy seaplanes and give a description.

Landing projectors (search-lights) for planes.

There are in use in foreign countries projectors with,

24 volt.

C O P Y.

17. It is very important to obtain materials about the central power station for planes.
The growth of the tonnage, the size, the shooting and bombthrowing apparatus on aircrafts brings new problems in the field of electrification of planes. Accumulators and small dynamos, working from a windpower are not sufficient enough.
It requires independent sources of Electro-energy with a gasmotor as a primary motive-power with special dynamos, guaranteeing all the consumers of the electro-energy on the plane, from the radio to the heating system, electrofication of the armament, bombthrowing, revolving of turpu-plates and turret tower.

Important to obtain.

- a) Power of the station, type of current, tension.
- b) blue prints, weight, dimensions, method of mounting.
- c) What primo-motor is placed in the power-station with a compressor cylinder for air starting airplane motors. The primo-motor is 6-8 H.P. with 3000 revolution per minute. Firms making this primo-motors.
- d) Dynamo, weight, dimensions, method of attachment, mounting.

18. Electro-lighting installations of sea-aerdromes. This problem consists of two principal parts.
1. Illumination of the startplace.
 2. Illumination of the coast buildings.
 3. Illumination for guarding.
 4. Illumination for signaling.

The most important is the illumination of the starting places.

Important to obtain.

1. Detailed plans and drawing of electo-lighting equipment of sea-airports.
2. Detailed description methods of connection of the commanding point with the airplane and reverse.
3. Detailed description and plans of methods of lighting the starting place.
4. Blue prints and plans, also the mounting system of lighting the starting place.
5. Detailed information; What is done to prevent the water surface of sea airdromes from soiling.

19. Landing means on seaplanes.

The landing means for airplanes are; Landing search-lights and underwing magnesium skyrockets, which are always kept on the plane and which could be used at any time in case of forced landing.

These means are not appliable for seaplanes. They dont give the necessary effect, because by lighting the water with straight rays they create light and the necessary visuality is not obtained.

In the English practice there were cases when parachute rockets were thrown down from seaplanes in emergency. These parachute rockets lighted areas of water, the surface of which was visible.

Our problem is to obtain:

- I. The firms making these landing means.
- II. What are those means: Are they projectors or rockets. To give a full description of these means and devices.
- III. What landing means are used on Navy seaplanes and their description.

20. Landing projectors (search-lights) for planes.

There are in use in foreign countries projectors with from 500-1000 watt, and tension of 12-24 volt.

Important to obtain: Firms manufacturing those projectors, diameter of the reflectors, dimension (size) and weight of these projectors.

Feeding and maintaining of the projectors.

What gives the prime-power, where is it installed and method of mounting, the type of current, voltage.

CAA:MSK
61-5381-49

July 20, 1932.

RECORDED
JUL 21 1932

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL DODDS.

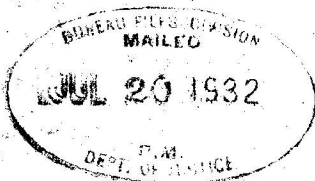
There are transmitted herewith two copies of a letter from the Detroit office of this Bureau, dated July 14, 1932, and its enclosure. The letter transmits information furnished by Fred D. Edgar, a mechanical engineer, who has been engaged by a Mr. Markoff, said to be the vice president of Amtorg, one Dimitroff, and another unknown individual, to secure and furnish for the use of the Soviet government information of mechanical details of various apparatus. This includes the lighting of airplanes, shooting and bomb throwing apparatus on aircrafts, and other aeronautical information. There are also referred to, the new dirigible being built at Akron, the factory of the Great Lakes Aircraft Corporation at Cleveland, and the submarine base at New London, Connecticut. Mention is also made of acoustic apparatus on submarines and ships and means of eliminating the air bubble released from torpedoes fired from submarines.

The Bureau has taken no action with regard to the foregoing.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Encl. 407023.



Two handwritten signatures in dark ink, located at the bottom of the page. The first signature is a cursive "W" followed by a horizontal line. The second signature is a more complex cursive mark, possibly initials or a name.

RECORDED

CAAMAX
#61-5381-50

July 26, 1932.

JUL 28 1932

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL DODDS.

With further reference to the matter of information furnished by Fred D. Edgar, concerning efforts of the Soviet Government to obtain mechanical details of various apparatus, Commander Kilpatrick of the Naval Intelligence telephoned to Mr. Appel on July 25, to state that if the Bureau had no objection, communications would be forwarded to members of the Naval Intelligence in an effort to secure additional details. Mr. Appel stated that the Bureau had no objection, and it is presumed that this course will be followed.

Commander Kilpatrick asked that any additional information received by the Department be forwarded to the Naval Intelligence promptly.

Very truly yours,

Director.

[Handwritten signature]

CAA:MAM
#61-5381

July 26, 1932

Special Agent in Charge,
United States Bureau of Investigation,
625 Lafayette Building,
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir:

^{per 49}
Copies of your letter of July 14, concerning information furnished by Fred D. Edgar in regard to efforts of the Soviet Government to obtain confidential information of mechanical details of various apparatus, were forwarded to the Criminal Division. One of these was sent by the Criminal Division to the Navy Department.

The Criminal Division advises that while it is not believed that any investigation in the matter should be made at this time, it is desired that your office keep in touch with the situation, in order that appropriate attention may be given the matter if adequate information is received that will warrant the belief that there has been a violation of Section 31 or Section 32 of Title 50, United States Code. If, therefore, Mr. Edgar reports any further information, you should see that complete details are obtained and are forwarded immediately.

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECORDED

61-5381-57	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 27 1932 A.M.	
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

CA:EE

5381-43
RECORDED

SEP 8 - 1932

September 6, 1932.

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
DODDS.

With further reference to the information furnished by Fred D. Edgar relative to the obtaining of information for the use of the Soviet Government regarding mechanical details of various apparatus in which the office of Naval Intelligence was extremely interested, there is transmitted a copy of a letter from the Detroit office of this Bureau, dated August 29th, referring to further information furnished by Mr. Edgar. It is understood that the office of Naval Intelligence is anxious to receive this at the earliest possible moment.

Very truly yours,

Director.

Enc. #404910.



U. S. Bureau of Investigation

Department of Justice

625 Lafayette Building
Detroit, Michigan
August 29, 1932

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Director
United States Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

SEP 8 - 1932

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated July 26, 1932, concerning the information furnished by Fred D. Edgar, Detroit, Michigan, in respect to efforts of the Soviet Government to obtain confidential information of mechanical details of various apparatus, in which the Detroit Office was advised to report any further information given by Edgar.

Mr. Edgar called at the Detroit Office on August 14, 1932, and advised that he met a man who calls himself Karl Krausse, at New London, Connecticut, who accompanied him to the offices of the New London Boat Company, New London, Connecticut, where an attempt was made to purchase the designs for a Diesel Engine used in naval S-boats. He stated that the New London Company wanted \$10,000 for the drawings and that Krausse was unable to pay this amount. He further advised that Mr. Krausse was an aeronautical engineer and was chiefly interested in aeronautical inventions; that Krausse informed him that in the future more important assignments will be given him, and that many details relative to aeronautical and naval inventions are needed immediately by his government. Mr. Edgar also stated that he was informed by Mr. Krausse that a representative of the Soviet Government is working in the Patent Office in Washington, D. C., where valuable information concerning naval patents is obtained by him. Mr. Edgar states he was unable to learn the name of this representative in the patent office.

Mr. Edgar advised that he has been requested to obtain all information possible relative to air purifying apparatus for submarines, submarine torpedo tubes, electric motors for submarines, a gasless water still and life saving apparatus for submarines. He advised that he is unable to get this information and that if he is to keep his contact with representatives of the Soviet Government it will be necessary for him to secure such information in some manner. Mr. Edgar suggests that plans for

such apparatus which are now obsolete be obtained from the Navy Department and given him which will in turn be turned over to Mr. Krausse.

Chief Boatswain's Mate Paul Laymon, Navy Recruiting Station, 710 Lawyers Building, has called at the Detroit Office and desired to know if any further information had been obtained from Mr. Edgar. He further stated that he has arranged to have Mr. Edgar questioned by Commander Vergil J. Dixon who is in charge of the Naval Recruiting Station at Detroit.

Mr. Edgar has been unable to furnish any further information relative to the activity of representatives of the Soviet Government but has promised to advise the Detroit Office if anything of value occurs.

Very truly yours,



R. B. Nathan, Acting
Special Agent in Charge

RDB:vs

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

U. S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Investigation

Enc: 2
67-5381

Washington, D. C.
September 9, 1932.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

On September 8, 1932, Commander Kilpatrick of the Navy Department, called and, on being informed that Mr. Appel was temporarily out of the office, requested the writer to tell him that a communication which Mr. Appel had promised last Saturday to send Commander Kilpatrick had not yet been received by him.

This matter was called to the attention of Mr. Appel on his return and at his request the writer called Commander Kilpatrick and informed him that a copy of the communication, which contained information furnished by Fred D. Edgar, Detroit, Michigan, relative to efforts of the Soviet Government to obtain confidential information of mechanical details of various apparatus, was being forwarded to him at once.

Mr. Appel had previously called the Criminal Division, through which the communication was being transmitted, and was informed by Mr. Parrish that it would be immediately forwarded to Commander Kilpatrick. Mr. Fisher, who was handling the matter, had been absent.

Respectfully,

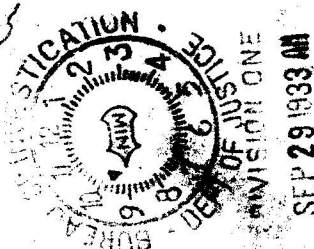
R. Harbo

R. Harbo.

RECORDED

SEP 11 1932

MAILED
SEP 11 1932



RECORDED
&
INDEXED

SEP 29 1933

Chicago, Illinois
September 22, 1933

Antorg Trading Corporation
MEMORANDUM FOR SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE M. H. PURVIS:

RE: RUSSIAN AMTORG

This will advise that on September 11, 1933, Horace T. Gilbert, 1940 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, who is a conductor on the C. & N. W. R. R., Wisconsin Division, with headquarters at the Kedzie Avenue Station, Chicago, Illinois, appeared at this office and advised that about one week ago, he attended a drinking party at the apartment located at 5036 Sheridan Road, Chicago, which is called the Park Sheridan Apartments; that those present at the party were Mrs. Don Carlos, Apt. 103 Georgian Apartments, 537 Deming Place, Chicago; Harry Heacox, 24 W. Huron Street, Chicago; Edward J. Hogan, International Vice President of the American Car Men's Association, Chicago, Illinois, (further address not known); one Betty Reynolds, address not known; also, an Englishman, whose name is not known. During the course of this party, considerable drinking was done, after which mentioned was made of the late World War, in which war Harry Heacox became shell shocked. During the conversation between Heacox, Hogan and the Englishman, the latter openly bragged that he was a representative of the RUSSIAN AMTORG and that there would be nothing to the next war; that even supposing the United States did have four million men at the front, his organization could place two men in each of fifty automobiles and gas the entire city of Chicago and questioned "What could the men at the front do, if the people at home were being killed".

This Englishman further declared that the police officials could not stop them because they could use gas on them. He said he could get any number of men to operate for \$500.00 each.

Mr. Gilbert advised that he and Heacox were companions in the Army, being connected with Company I, 131st Infantry, 33rd Division. He stated he has not seen the Englishman since that time, but that the latter may be located through Mrs. Don Carlos, or may be located through Edward Hogan, and that Mrs. Don Carlos can furnish the address of Edward Hogan.

Gilbert furnished the following description of the Englishman he referred to:

Age: 45 Years
Height: About 6 feet
Weight: About 160 Pounds
Hair: Dark Brown
Eyes: Grey
Wears small mustache;
Has decided English Accent;
Well educated; well dressed.

Mr. Gilbert advised he was submitting this information not so much for the value it might serve at the present time, but due to the fact that it might be of benefit to the Government in the future. No leads are being set out, but the information is submitted to you for such purpose as it may serve.

Respectfully submitted,

K. R. McINTIRE,
Special Agent

KRM:TMH

CC Bureau ✓

J. P. Stevens & Co., Inc.

Commission Merchants

261 Fifth Avenue
PHONE LEXINGTON 2-3700
44 Leonard Street
PHONE WALKER 5-2048
New York

PLEASE REPLY TO 44 LEONARD STREET

October 16, 1935

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This writer has been informed, although he has not been able to confirm it, that Russian imports brought into this country by the Amtorg Trading Company, which is the Russian Agency in this country, are paid for in United States currency and that said money is retained in this country for the promotion of communists' doctrines.

Of course this may be hearsay and have nothing behind it, however, if you have any information along these lines that you would care to give this writer confidentially, it will be appreciated.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Yours very truly,

J. P. STEVENS & CO. INC.

G. N. Tower

GNT:C

NOV 26 1935

CIL:ER

RECORDED

61-5381-55

October 25, 1935.

Mr. G. N. Tower,
J. P. Stevens & Co., Inc.,
44 Leonard Street,
New York, New York.

Dear Sir: *

I am in receipt of your letter of October 16, 1935, in regard to your request for information about Russian imports brought into this country by the Amtorg Trading Company, and paid for in United States currency which is retained in this country for the promotion of communists' doctrines.

I desire to advise you that there is no Federal law at the present time covering communistic activities and no investigation has been conducted by this Bureau. The Bureau's files fail to reflect any information on this subject. Therefore, I am unable to assist you.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

cc-New York

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED

OCT 25 1935

F. B. I.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

W. J. [Signature]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
November 29, 1939.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
I talked with [redacted]
[redacted] concerning the matter of fingerprinting; passport
application, fingerprinting of aliens, and the assignment of
agents of the FBI to foreign countries. I [redacted]
[redacted] setting forth that you had secured
an opinion from Special Assistant to the Attorney General
Alexander Holtzoff, and giving him the substance of those
opinions. (S)

[redacted] upon further discussion
of the question of assignment of FBI agents to foreign countries
he could readily see where it would be foolish to assign them
under any pretext, and thought that you were absolutely right
in desiring that they be assigned as representatives of the
FBI. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

While talking [redacted] he
also gave me information to the effect that [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

RECORDED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 5 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

mej

C O P

Director.

disclose the information to the FBI, and if so he will also assist in making arrangements whereby we will be immediately advised [redacted] (S)

While talking with [redacted]

He also told me that he had received several letters [redacted]

I advised you some time ago of a bill which was introduced in the New Jersey Legislature calling for the fingerprinting of aliens in the State of New Jersey. [redacted]

which he gave to me. (S)

I am also transmitting herewith [redacted] after my conversation with you last week. These [redacted] and no copies other than the attached made. (S)

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXNORTH
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
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FOI/PA# 1416259-0

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607 U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, N. Y.

~~SECRET~~

December 6, 1939.

Commander D. B. Downer
Office of Naval Intelligence
Third Naval District Headquarters
90 Church Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear Commander:

I am transmitting herewith a photostatic
copy of [redacted] pursuant
to the conference which we had on Monday night.

b7D

Sincerely yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure.
cc-Bureau

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61-5381
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEC 9 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~SECRET~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1939

___ The Director	___ Files Section
___ Mr. Nathan	___ Personnel Files
___ Mr. Tolson	___ Technical Laboratory
___ Mr. Nichols	___ Mechanical Section
___ Mr. Clegg	___ Crime Records Section
___ Mr. Hince	___ Mr. Harbo
___ Mr. Glavin	___ Mr. Hendon
___ Mr. Crowl	___ Identification Division
___ Mr. Tracy	___ Mr. Ladd
___ Mr. Coffey	___ Mr. Quinn Tamm

SUPERVISORS

___ Mr. Abbaticchio	___ Mr. Hayden	___ Mr. Pryor
___ Mr. Bellino	___ Mr. Kimball	___ Mr. Rosen
___ Mr. Bickley	___ Mr. Kramer	___ Mr. Ruggles
___ Mr. Bowman	___ Mr. R. L. Murphy	___ Mr. Smith
___ Mr. Brennan	___ Mr. W. A. Murphy	___ Mr. Sears
___ Mr. Carson	___ Mr. McIntire	___ Mr. Strickland
___ Mr. Cornelius	___ Mr. Pennington	___ Mr. Willis

* * *

___ Miss Gandy	___ Bring file up to date
___ Mr. Gauthier	___ Send File
___ Mrs. Morton	___ Correct
___ Mr. Albaugh	___ Call me regarding this
___ Mr. Halter	___ Note and Return
___ Miss Conlon	___ Search, serialize and route
___ Miss Friedman	___ Stenographers 5724
___ Typists - 5724	___ Stenographers 5730
___ Stenographers 5706	___ Prepare tickler for
___ See Me	___ Call these files

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E. A. TAMM - 5734

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61-5381-56

ENCLOSURE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 6, 1939

AR:LCJ

12:45 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

With reference to the attached memorandum, I called SAC Foxworth at New York and advised him that the Director had approved his suggestion that the President of the New York Stock Exchange be contacted in connection with the Amtorg Trading Company account. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mr. Foxworth advised that he would contact the President as soon as possible, but that he probably would not be able to do so for several days, as he was under the impression that Mr. Martin was out of town. (S) (U)

Mr. Foxworth stated that he was advised by [REDACTED]

Mr. Foxworth stated incidentally that he planned to [REDACTED]

Respectfully,

A. Rosen

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DEC 13 1939
[Handwritten initials and stamps]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AR:COH

Time: 12:20 p.m.

December 5, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

While in telephonic communication with
SAC Foxworth at New York, I was informed that he is
obtaining certain information in connection with the

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Basche, according
to Foxworth, was expelled from France during the last
World War as being pro-German. (S) (U)

Mr. Foxworth stated that if the Bureau has no ob-
jection he would like to go to Martin, the President of the
New York Stock Exchange and advise him that the Amtorg
Trading Corporation is buying stock and that we would like
to know whether Amtorg is trying to buy a controlling in-
terest in any American firm, pointing out at the same time
that this would be an excellent means of effecting sabotage
in production. (S) (U)

I told Mr. Foxworth this would be referred for
approval.

Respectfully,

A. ROSEN

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1939

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<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Nathan	<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Files
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tolson	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Laboratory
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Nichols	<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical Section
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/> Crime Records Section
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Hince	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Harbo
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Glavin	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Hendon
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Crowl	<input type="checkbox"/> Identification Division
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Ladd
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Coffey	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Quinn Tamm

SUPERVISORS

<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Abbaticchio	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Hayden	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Pryor
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Bellino	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kimball	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Rosen
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Bickley	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Kramer	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Ruggles
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Bowman	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. R. L. Murphy	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Smith
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Brennan	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. W. A. Murphy	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Sears
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Carson	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. McIntire	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Strickland
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Cornelius	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Pennington	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Willis

<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/> Bring file up to date
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Gauthier	<input type="checkbox"/> Send File
<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Morton	<input type="checkbox"/> Correct
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Albaugh	<input type="checkbox"/> Call me regarding this
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Halter	<input type="checkbox"/> Note and Return
<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Conlon	<input type="checkbox"/> Search, serialize and route
<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Friedman	<input type="checkbox"/> Stenographers 5724
<input type="checkbox"/> Typists - 5724	<input type="checkbox"/> Stenographers 5730
<input type="checkbox"/> Stenographers 5706	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare tickler for
<input type="checkbox"/> See Me	<input type="checkbox"/> Call these files

send serials

re this

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361484

E. A. TAMM - 5734

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
December 6, 1939.

~~SECRET~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

em { RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION EMPLOYEES } ~~S~~ (U)

Dear Sir:

Confidential informant [] has furnished me

[] ~~(S)~~ (U)

A photostatic copy of [] is transmitted
herewith for the completion of the Bureau's files. ~~(S)~~ (U)

At the request of the informant, I am also fur-
nishing a photostatic copy of [] to Commander D. B. Downer
of the Office of Naval Intelligence in New York. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure.

8/22/99

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ENCLOSURE

61-5381-58

607 U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, N. Y.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~
December 11, 1939.

Mr. Hugh McQuillan
Special Agent in Charge
Intelligence Unit, Bureau of Internal Revenue
U. S. Treasury Department
90 Church Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. McQuillan:

Reference is made to the subject of
furnishing you with copies of [redacted]

[redacted] as
was discussed during our conference on Saturday.

This morning I am advised that you do
not care to have us furnish you with this material weekly,
but that if anything develops out of it which would indicate
[redacted] you would like
to have it called to your attention. For this reason I am
not forwarding [redacted] but we will
be very glad to make available to you the information which
is contained in our files on these accounts at any time.

Sincerely yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

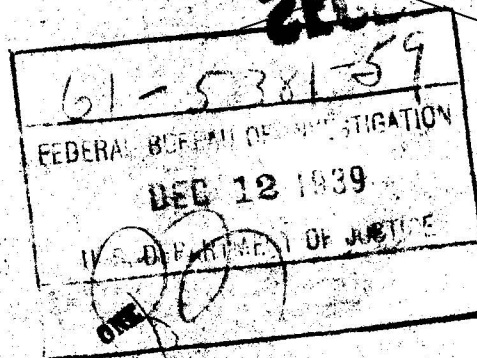
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Memo andum for
the Director

-4-

December 12, 1939

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In brief it is suggested that it may be possible during the remainder of this week to obtain indictments concerning Raphael Rush and David Leeds. It is possible that investigation will disclose sufficient information which will enable us also to obtain an indictment against Angelo Herndon.

Respectfully,

K. R. McIntire

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

New York, N. Y.

WJH:EL

December 7, 1939

Special Agent in Charge,
Newark, New Jersey.

Re: ~~BRIGHT AERONAUTICAL PLANT,~~
~~PATERSON, New Jersey.~~
~~ALCONY CORPORATION.~~

~~SECRET~~

Dear Sir:

On November 8, 1939, Mrs. FLEETING P. BASSETT, 136 East 67th Street, New York City, telephone Regent 7-0176, called at the New York Office. She stated that she had recently been in Washington, where she had been referred to Mr. J. Edgar Hoover to offer her services in connection with espionage and subversive activities. She stated that upon calling at the Bureau, Mr. Hoover was out of town, and she was interviewed by Mr. Crowl, at which time she was advised that the Bureau would contact her should her services be needed in any way. She advised that she was connected with the Military Intelligence during the last World War, at which time she was a Red Cross nurse, doing intelligence work for the army. She stated that when she was interviewed by Mr. Crowl, he requested that should she come into any information of importance, she should communicate the same to the New York Office, and in accordance with these instructions she offered the following information.

She stated that she has recently learned that twelve Russian engineering students or engineers who were educated in Russia are over here, ostensibly to study construction in the Wright Aeronautical plant at Paterson, N.J., and that they were recommended by a Mr. MILLIGAN, who works in the Wright Aeronautical plant, and whose address is 132 Beekman Avenue, Paterson, N.J., telephone Sherwood 2-7400, to Previews Inc., 342 Madison Avenue, New York City, for the purpose of renting some property which is reported to be located close to the Wright plant. They are reported to have inspected an estate in Ramsey, N.J., Bergen County, after contact with Previews Inc., and Mrs. Bassett furnished a photographic circular concerning this property, which is attached hereto. She stated that they inspected this property five separate times, took measurements and agreed to rent it, and when questioned to their financial responsibility, they are reported to have said that Amore Trading Corporation would pay the necessary rental.

~~SECRET~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEC 9 1939

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SAC, Newark
12/7/39

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She further advised that these students had turned down the renting of this property the previous week, saying that the number of servants required meant too much expense, but she has ascertained that Previews Inc. thinks that these individuals are still looking for the same sort of place with a large amount of acreage in a secluded locality. She further advised that a Mr. JOSEPH RUSCH, a real estate agent located somewhere in New Jersey, had been working on this deal with these individuals, having been asked by the previously mentioned Mr. Mulligan to help these parties find such a location. Mrs. Bassett mentioned that the particular estate in question would have ample acreage for landing and taking off of airplanes.

Mrs. Bassett advised that she can be reached at the above address and telephone number and will be only too glad to be of assistance to the Bureau. She also mentioned that her husband is a retired Commander in the U. S. Navy, Class of 1904, U. S. Naval Academy.

No further investigation is being undertaken by the New York Field Division in connection with this matter, and the above information is being furnished to your office for whatever action may be deemed appropriate.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

enc.

cc: Bureau ✓

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

COPY - 111

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

KRM:DC

December 12, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY U. S. A.;
REGISTRATION - AGENTS OF
FOREIGN PRINCIPALS

In keeping with your instructions I held a conference with Attorneys Rett and O'Donnell on the night of December 11, 1939.

The following cases provide possibilities for Grand Jury indictments in the near future:

DAVID LEEDS

Leeds is business manager of the Daily Worker. His correct name is understood to be David Amariglio, he being a native of Greece, having become a naturalized American. He filed a sworn statement of ownership of the Daily Worker before the Postmaster General on October 1, 1937, in which he gave his name as David Leeds. He also obtained a passport in 1937 in the name of David Amariglio. The net result is that Leeds has perjured himself in either one of these matters. The result is, therefore, that if his correct name is Amariglio it was fitting and proper for him to obtain a passport under that name, but it was not proper for him to file an affidavit of ownership of the Daily Worker in the name of David Leeds. This matter can be presented to the Grand Jury this week.

ANGELO HERNDON

Herndon is a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party. He applied for a passport on June 28, 1937, in the name of Eugene Angelo Braxton and obtained passport No. 453004. There is some indication, particularly from our criminal files, to the effect that Herndon's correct name is actually Eugene Angelo Braxton. It is noted, however, that he has written a book styled

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum for
the Director

-2-

December 12, 1936

~~SECRET~~

"Let Me Live" in which he gives his name as Angelo Herndon. It was also noted he was tried in the State Courts of Georgia several years ago under the old Insurrection Law, which case was appealed to the United States Supreme Court on two occasions, in which instances he also used the name of Angelo Herndon. We are conducting an investigation in Cincinnati and Wyoming, Ohio, concerning his birth. He has reported on two occasions as having been born in both places. It is hoped that by this investigation we will establish the name under which he was born and possibly obtain a certified copy of his birth certificate. It is also possible to subpoena him before the Grand Jury this week here in Washington and merely ask him his name. It is believed that he will automatically say his name is Angelo Herndon. Thus he would be guilty of perjuring himself before the Grand Jury if he so testified when in fact his correct name is Braxton. On the contrary, if his correct name is Herndon there arises a natural violation of the Passport Laws for his having given his name as Braxton in applying for a passport. This morning Agent Loebl made efforts to obtain a certified copy of the passport application. He was advised by the Passport Division that this record of Angelo Herndon was sent to New York for Mr. Cahill's attention last night. I immediately called Mr. O'Donnell of the Criminal Division suggesting that we get out a subpoena immediately so that we can at least have an opportunity to get a certified copy of the passport application. Mr. O'Donnell said he would handle the matter this morning. It is intended likewise to issue a subpoena for the appearance of Herndon before the Grand Jury, which subpoena will be served by Agents of the New York Office.

RAPHAEL RUSH

Rush was Vice President and Manager of Bookniga Corporation which is now defunct but which Messrs. Rett and O'Donnell are convinced acted as an agent of a foreign principal. Rush signed a contract for Bookniga with its foreign principal Mezkniga. Rush also wrote letters to the Department of State refusing to register. It is believed that this matter can be presented to the Grand Jury this week.

Memorandum for
the Director

-3-

December 12, 1939

AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

Amtorg has operated in the United States as a commercial trading corporation for the Soviet Government for many years. Messrs. Rett and O'Donnell, however, are of the very strong belief that some of its activities take it out of the category of a commercial enterprise and make it subject to the Registration Act. They have indicated to me that there is evidence showing that Amtorg acts as a foreign principal for certain groups operating in the United States. This case has not been threshed out yet but it will be given immediate analytical and investigative attention.

INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS

International Publishers have during the past several months been producing and circulating in the United States a book styled "History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union". Both Messrs. Rett and O'Donnell are of the opinion that the case is a strong one and can be presented to the Federal Grand Jury in the very near future. A prosecution of International Publishers will automatically include a prosecution of Alexander Trachtenberg and A. A. Heller who are officers of International Publishers. This case has been in the hands of the Criminal Division for several months, all of the evidence having been prepared here at the Seat of Government as a result of research work. A further analysis of the material which we have may disclose that some minor investigations may have to be conducted before it will be possible to present this to the Grand Jury. It is thought, however, that such investigations will not use up a great deal of time.

WORKERS LIBRARY PUBLISHERS

The Bureau has conducted a considerable amount of investigation concerning Workers Library Publishers. Its publications are entirely of a Communist propaganda nature. Messrs. Rett and O'Donnell have indicated to me their strong belief that there is a case which can be presented to the Grand Jury as to this organization.

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61-5381-61

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
December 13, 1939.

~~SECRET~~
PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a copy of

[redacted]
[redacted] was furnished to me by Commander
D. B. Downer, who in turn had received it from confi-
dential informant [redacted] for delivery to us. (S) (U)

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure.

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~~SECRET~~
3.
AND EXCISE

~~SECRET~~

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Starnes
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tamm
Miss Gandy

b7D

61-6-1-62

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ENCLOSURE

61-5381-62

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

PEF:MT

New York, N.Y.
December 6, 1939.

~~SECRET~~

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

Dear Sir:

[redacted] an informant of this office, has furnished me with [redacted]

[redacted] A photostatic copy of [redacted] is being transmitted herewith. For your information, [redacted] has been furnished to the New York office of Naval Intelligence, and I understand by that office forwarded to the Director of Naval Intelligence in Washington. (S) (U)

Your particular attention is invited to [redacted]

[redacted] I think that it would be of interest to know what stocks the Amtorg is dealing in, and in accordance with my telephone conversation with Mr. Rosen of the Bureau I will endeavor to ascertain this information from the proper officials of the New York Stock Exchange. (S) (U)

The informant in this case has also advised me that [redacted]

[redacted] If any further information is received concerning [redacted] you will be immediately advised. (S) (U)

So far as J. S. Bache is concerned, reference is made to my letter to you of October 6, 1939 concerning an interview which I had with Miss Elizabeth Leary of the Sherry Netherlands Hotel, New York City. Miss Leary, during that interview, told me that Jules Bache had been thrown out of France during the last World War because of his German sympathies.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Our file further reflects a copy of a letter from an Assistant United States Attorney in Boston, dated November 13, 1917, which transmitted a copy of the "Cotton Review", published by J.S. Bache & Company, 42 Broadway, New York City, which the Boston Attorney felt contained certain propaganda. A copy of the Review

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Director.

is not in our files, which reflect that it was sent to the United States Attorney, who advised at that time that the trade letter of Bache & Company did not constitute a violation of any federal law.

The file further reflects a letter, under date of June 13, 1918, signed with an illegible signature, which states that the Consul of France at Chicago had called to the attention of the High Commission at Washington a charitable institution called "War Babies Cradle", whose headquarters were at the office of Mrs. Jules S. Bache, 42 Broadway, New York City, and that according to information in the possession of the French Consul at Chicago, the organization was nothing less than a swindle.

Very truly yours,



P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure.

~~SECRET~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

65-341

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE WHEN MADE 12/16/39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/21,22/39	REPORT MADE BY T. F. MULLEN TFM:EM
TITLE N. DENISKIN; V. PANIN; JOSEPH KINNER; ARUKOV; N. KIZIVADZE, et al; Inspectors, Amtorg Corp. New York City, N.Y.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Above subjects and other inspectors of the Amtorg Corporation of New York have for several months past been inspecting various articles being manufactured under contract for Russian Government by the Barnes Drilling Company. This company presently manufacturing drills used in connection with the manufacture of large guns. Barnes Drill Co. advise these subjects and other inspectors are not permitted to enter any section of the Barnes Drill Co. outside of that section where the Russian goods are being manufactured.

C.

DETAILS:

This investigation was predicated upon information from Postmaster L. P. LUBY of the Rockford Post Office dated October 20, 1939 as follows:

The following information was given this morning evening by a man who represented himself to be an electrical construction man by the name of C. Fisher. He has been living at the Hotel Elms, this city, but was leaving this morning for his home in

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (enc) 1 Commander J.W. GREGORY, ONI Great Lakes, Ill. (P AND C) 1 Capt. GILES CARPENTER, G2 Chicago, Illinois (P AND C) 2 New York 2 Chicago cc ONI G 2/15/40 LJB	DEC 21 1939 20 A.M. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/22/97 BY 9202/RCD ONE HARB 361454 BCE/mst

Dixon, Illinois. He came to this office looking for a Federal agent and asked that this information be sent your office -

He states that there are four Russians living at the Elms Hotel, only one of whom speak English; that they are employed in a local factory making government supplies, but he was unable to furnish the name of the factory; that these men buy all newspapers on sale, although only one can apparently read; that it is his understanding that they make a habit of getting lost in this factory where they work and getting into the part of the shop making government supplies, and that they are planning to return to Russia about Thanksgiving. Mr. Fisher also stated that his room was next to the room occupied by these men and that they are evidently comparing notes as to what happened during the day until late at night.

I do not know whether or not there is any truth or foundation to his report, so am sending it on for what it is worth. There are many factories in this city that makes tools, etc., for the government.

Very truly yours,

L. P. Luby
Postmaster

Agent contacted MR. LUBY and he advised that the present whereabouts of MR. FISHER is unknown to him; that at the time MR. FISHER gave the above information, he stated that he was going to his home in Dixon, Illinois, would remain there only a few days and that he then intended to leave for the southern part of the United States; however, Agent contacted MR. J. G. BAER, the Proprietor of the Elms Hotel at Rockford and he stated that from time to time for many months past there have been four or five Russians all of them inspectors residing at that hotel; that all of these Russians were inspecting materials being manufactured for the Russian Government by the Barnes Drill Company of Rockford, Ill.

He stated that in addition to the above subjects, a Russian by the name of N. PARRIN had lived there and left, and that another Russian by the name of S. RAELER also had lived there but had left; that one DEZISBEN, first name unknown, also resided at that hotel but has since left and that subject JOSEPH KINNER who still resides there with the other subjects mentioned above acts as interpreter. MR. BAKER stated that he understood that they were inspectors from the Amtorg Corporation, New York City; that other Russians all of whom are inspectors for the same corporation come and go and very few of them reside at the hotel more than three or four weeks.

At the Barnes Drill Co. Agent contacted MR. A. M. JOHNSON, the President, and he advised that at the present time and for many months past the Barnes Drill Co. has been manufacturing certain machinery used for the drilling of large guns for the Russian Government; that these drills and other material are used by the Russian Government for the manufacture of guns of various sizes and descriptions; that the Amtorg Corporation, 261 - 5th Avenue, New York City send from time to time inspectors to inspect these various materials; that various inspectors come and go some of them staying there as long as four weeks; that presently the following are the names of these Russian inspectors at the Barnes Drill Co. plant: N. DENISKIN; JOSEPH KINNER; V. PANIN; RUJKOV; and N. KIZIVADZE; that DENISKIN has been there about five weeks; KINNER has been there for many months he acting as interpreter for the other Russian inspectors; that V. PANIN is chief inspector; that RUJKOV is an apprentice and has only been there about two weeks; likewise that N. KIZIVADZE is also a new inspector; that these various inspectors cover this entire section of the country and inspect various materials from places such as Racine, Milwaukee and other towns throughout the central section of the United States. With respect to the information received that these various inspectors conveniently lose themselves in different parts of the factory of the Barnes Drill Co., MR. JOHNSON stated that this is not so; that a very close watch was kept on these various Russians and if they are found in any part of the factory other than where any material is being manufactured for the Russian Government, they are told to stay in their own section and in the vicinity of their own material being constructed; that a small office or room is furnished these inspectors and when they are not inspecting the material under contract, they are supposed to stay in their office. MR. JOHNSON stated that the employees of the Barnes Drill Co. watch this very closely because the Barnes Drill Co. is likewise constructing drills of various sizes for the U. S. Government to be used in the drilling of various sized guns. MR. JOHNSON further

stated that should any irregularity on the part of these various Russian inspectors be learned, he would be glad to notify the Chicago Field Division Office immediately.

ENCLOSURES:

To the Bureau

15 index cards to the Bureau.

C L O S E D

KMM:GJ
61-5361-65

December 27, 1939

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROOGE

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.;
REGISTRATION - AGENT OF
FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

For your assistance in the above entitled matter, I am
transmitting herewith photostatic copies of [REDACTED]

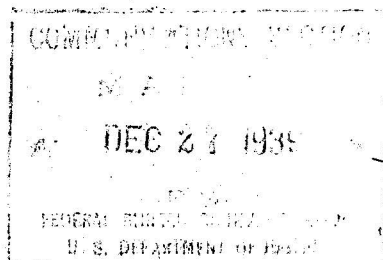
b7D

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____



~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

8/22/47
CLASSIFIED BY 67803/RDP/BDE/MAJ
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 66
3614 841

KRE:CJ

~~61-5381-64~~

January 5, 1940

61-5381-64

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE

RECORDED

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.;
REGISTRATION - AGENT OF
FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

For the attention of Messrs. Henry O'Donnell and
Floyd Rett of your Division, I am transmitting herewith
one copy of a [REDACTED]

b7D

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

JAN 5 1940

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature and initials]

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
December 21, 1939.

~~SECRET~~

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Jones	.....
Mr. Mumford	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Gandy	.....

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a copy of a [redacted]

[redacted] (S)

This information was furnished to this office by informant [redacted] A photostatic copy has been retained for completion of the New York files. (S)

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Encl.

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

8/22/97
CLASSIFIED BY 9803/RM/OCF/mr J
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 246

361484

RECEIVED

16/42

5381-64

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/2/97 BY 9803/ROS/BCE/mra

361484

on this Envelope

61-5381-64
ENCLOSURE

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

EAT:COH

December 27, 1939

Time: 12:08 p.m.

~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SAC Foxworth telephonically

advised that

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(S) (U)

EAT

E. A. TAMM

b7D

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

8/22/97
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RECORDED & INDEXED

~~SECRET~~

61-5351-65

INVESTIGATION
DEC 28 1939
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

PEF:CD

December 28, 1939.

~~PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a photostatic copy of

[REDACTED] This information was
furnished to me by confidential informant [REDACTED] (U)

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure (1)

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

CLASSIFIED BY G803/R00/DEC/MAZ
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X

~~SECRET~~

361484

KRM/bw
61-5381-67
~~66-2542-4682~~ ✓

January 17, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
MR. O. JOHN ROGGE

Re: Amtorg Trading Corporation.

I am transmitting herewith one photostatic copy
of [redacted]
[redacted] for the
attention of Messrs. Henry O'Donnell and Floyd Rett.

b7D

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

JAN 18 9 10 AM '40
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

Euf

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

PEF:CD

December 27, 1939.

~~PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

You will recall from the photostatic [redacted]

[redacted] We
have endeavored discreetly to ascertain the purpose for which
[redacted] were made. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Today, confidential informant, [redacted] called and
advised me, without disclosing the source of his information,
that [redacted]

The informant also advised me that he understood that
[redacted] ~~(S)~~ (U)

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

*I advised Capt. Hixon
of on 8 and Col Churchill
of 82 re this Ex 12*

RECORDED & INDEXED

8/22/97
CLASSIFIED BY 9803/R00/L00/mss
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X
361494

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

RECORDED

b7D

b7D

b7D

607 U. S. COURT HOUSE
FOLEY SQUARE
NEW YORK, N.Y.

PEF:CD

December 28, 1939.

~~PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL~~

Commander D. B. Downer
U. S. Naval Intelligence
3rd Naval District Headquarters
Federal Office Bldg.,
90 Church Street,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Commander Downer:

I am transmitting herewith photostatic copy of the

[REDACTED]

~~(S)~~ (U)

With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure (1)
cc- Bureau

8/22/97
CLASSIFIED BY 9803/RMS/BCE

DECLASSIFY ON: 25X

361484

~~SECRET~~

61-5381-69
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 3 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ONE

Chicago, Illinois
January 3, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Sir

In connection with our telephone conversation of December 29, 1939, I am transmitting herewith one copy of the report of Special Agent T. F. Mullen dated at Chicago, Illinois, December 16, 1939, in the case entitled "N. DENISEIN; V. PANIN; JOSEPH KINNER; —; ZUKOV; N. KIZIVADZE, et al; inspectors, Astorg Corporation, New York City, New York; ESPIONAGE."

It is believed this is the case Lieutenant Grandall had in mind and it is the only case investigated by this Office concerning Russian inspectors working out of Rockford, Illinois.

Very truly yours

AHJ:IAJ
65-341

W. S. DEVEREAUX
Special Agent in Charge

cc Bureau

61-5381-69X	
FEDERAL	INVESTIGATION
JAN 5 1940	
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
ONE	

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

AF:MA

January 4, 1940

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I wish to advise that MR. HARRY THOENS of 366 Fifth Avenue, New York City, who is the manager of the premises 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, at which address the AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION maintains its offices, informed Special Agent ALBERT FRANZ that in the event the Bureau desired, he would arrange to keep all of the AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION'S waste paper segregated in order that the same might be inspected by Bureau Agents.

MR. THOENS also advised that about three years ago he permitted some Naval officers to go through the AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION'S offices over a week-end in order that they might make some observations.

Since MR. THOENS appears to be a talkative type of person, no further action is being taken by this office unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED

INDEXED

61-5381-7

MA

(Circular stamp)

LIB:TD
61-5381-71

January 12, 1940

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Information has been received to the effect that V. M. Kalinin, President of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, directed a letter to the Watertary Button Company, Watertary, Connecticut, to obtain authority for two of their engineers, Messrs. G. N. Malodov and A. A. Zacharov to visit their plant. This invitation apparently was refused, in view of the fact that the Watertary Button Company was working on a Government contract and the officials of the concern viewed this request with some suspicion.

I have also been informed that the Minneapolis Honeywell Regulator Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota, received a similar letter from the Glavestrom Commission of the U.S.S.R., 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, relative to two of their engineers by the names of Malodov and Zacharov, who are apparently identical with the two engineers named by the Amtorg Corporation, although there appears to be a difference in spelling.

I am furnishing the above to you as a matter of information and would appreciate being advised whether you have a record of these two engineers being in any way officially connected with the Soviet Government, in order that our records may be complete. I would also like to be advised whether the Amtorg Corporation or the Glavestrom Commission is registered with the State Department in accordance with the Act providing for the registration of Agents of foreign principals.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

JAN 13 1940
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
January 6, 1940.

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For the information of the Bureau, I am transmitting herewith a copy of a letter received from Colonel F. K. Ross, General Staff Corps, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, which he had received from the Waterbury Button Company, Waterbury, Conn., under date of December 28, 1939. No action is being taken in this matter by the New York office in the absence of Bureau instructions.

Very truly yours,



P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Encl.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

11/27/40
Sec's B
6.1-88.1-71

ms

THE WATERBURY BUTTON COMPANY
WATERBURY, CONN.

December 28, 1939.

Major George F. Spann
U. S. Army Quartermaster Depot
1st Ave. & 58th St.
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dear Major Spann:

Below we quote from a letter received from Glavesprom
Commission of the U.S.S.R., Amtorg Trading Corp., 261 Fifth Ave., New
York City:

"Two of our engineers, Messrs. G.N. Molodzov and A. A. Zacharov,
would like to visit your plant. Kindly let us know whether such
a visit could be arranged and when it will be convenient to receive
them.

"Thanking you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter, we
are

Very truly yours,

V. M. KALININ,
President".

We have written that it was not the policy of this company to
permit visitors to go through the plant. We would hardly be inclined to do so
at a time like now since it happens we are working on Government contract work.

We thought, however, it would be best to bring a situation like
this to your attention because in the present times of stress our Government
we think is interested at all times in keeping a line on foreign visitors and
what they are trying to get at in this country.

They cannot be other than information-seekers, and we think that
a time like now is certainly not one in which secrets or information of any
kind should leave the country.

The Army Intelligence Service may be interested in looking into
this.

Cordially yours,

THE WATERBURY BUTTON CO.

H. W. Baer
Ass't. Treas.

~~8/22/97~~
~~8/22/97 9803/200/PC8/ma-T~~
~~361484~~

61-5381-71

EAT:DM

January 6, 1940

Brigadier General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Personal and
Confidential

RECORDED & INDEXED

Dear General Watson:

As of possible interest to you and to the
President, I am transmitting herewith a photostatic
copy of [REDACTED]

You will recall that the Amtorg Corporation is
the trading and commercial agency for the Soviet
Government and the [REDACTED]

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

Special Messenger

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
copy encl. retained bu. file

JAN 6 1940
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b7D

b7D

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

PEF:CD

December 28, 1939.

PERSONAL & ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith the photostatic copy of

[REDACTED]

The original of this [REDACTED] was furnished to
us by confidential informant [REDACTED] and a copy thereof
has also been furnished to Commander DOWNER, Director of
Naval Intelligence in this district. (S) (U)

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure (1)

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

~~8/22/97
CLASSIFIED BY 9803/Ron/BCE/mz
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 6
361494~~

ENCLOSURE

1-6-40
1-6-40
1-6-40

RECORDED
INDEXED

61-5-1-1-2
RECORDED
INDEXED

b7D

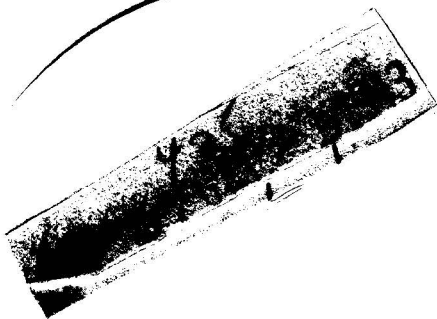
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RECORDED COPY ATTACHED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/22/97 BY 9803 RAD/BCE/MAZ

361484

on this Envelope



61-5381-71X
ENCLOSURE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

PEF:MT
61-513

New York, N. Y.
January 5, 1940.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a [redacted]

[redacted] was furnished to
me by confidential informant [redacted] and a copy thereof
has been furnished to Commander D. B. Dowmer of the Office
of Naval Intelligence.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Encl.

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

b7D

ENCLOSURE

FD

JAN 9 1940

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



ENCLOSURE

61-5381-72

RECORDED

KRM:CJ

61-5381-93

January 20, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

I am transmitting herewith for the attention of Messrs. Henry O'Donnell and Floyd Rett of your Division one photostatic copy of a [REDACTED]

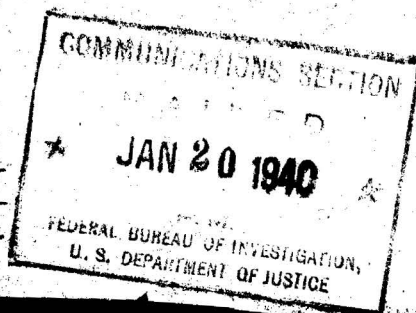
There is submitted herewith a photostatic copy of another [REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____



JAN 20 1 15 PM '40
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 61-5381-4718

b7D

b7D

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

PF:MT
61-513.

New York, N. Y.
January 5, 1940.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a photostatic
copy of [redacted]
[redacted] This
list was furnished to us by confidential informant [redacted]
[redacted]

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure.

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

b7D

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

JAN 6 1940

COPIES DESTROYED

R 405 APR 19 1961



61-5381-73

ENCLOSURE

607 U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, N. Y.

January 6, 1940.

Colonel F. K. Ross
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Headquarters Second Corps Area
Office of the Corps Area Commander
Governors Island, N.Y.

My dear Colonel:

Thanks for your letter of January 2,
1940, transmitting a copy of a letter which you had re-
ceived from the Waterbury Button Company, Waterbury, Conn.

We are making this letter a matter of
record in our file.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

P.F.:MT
cc-Bureau

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

61-5381
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 9 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ONE

WHE:GJ
62-5381-74

February 3, 1940

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

I am transmitting herewith a photostatic copy of

[Redacted]

I am also transmitting herewith a photostatic
copy of

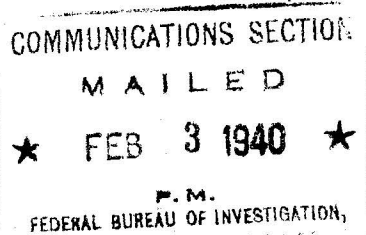
[Redacted]

This material is submitted for the assistance
of Messrs. Floyd Rett and Henry O'Donnell.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure



b7D

b7D

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
January 12, 1940.

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith [redacted]

A copy of [redacted] has also been furnished to Commander Downer, Director of ONI in this district, at the request of confidential informant [redacted] who furnished the information to us.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Encl.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

b7D

b7D

*rec'd
1/13/40
FBI*

*RECORDED
INDEXED*

61-74

John
OS

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
January 12, 1940

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith [redacted]

[redacted] This information was furnished to us by
confidential informant [redacted]

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Encl.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Tele. Room.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

b7D

ENCLOSURE

RECORDED
INDEXED

6-75
JAN 15 1940
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Chicago, Illinois
January 11, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear Sir

Reference is made to your letter dated January
8, 1940.

As requested, there is enclosed herewith one
copy of the report of Special Agent T. F. Mullen,
Chicago, dated December 16, 1939, in the case
entitled "W. BENISKIN, et al; Inspector, Amorg
Corporation, New York City, New York; ESPIONAGE",
which report was inadvertently not enclosed with
Chicago letter dated January 3, 1940.

Very truly yours

JEF:IAJ
65-341
Encl.

W. S. DEVEREAUX
Special Agent in Charge

cc Bureau

RECORDED
&
INDEXED.

65-5311-76	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	STATION
JAN 13 1940	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ONE	

KRM:CJ
61-7590

January 16, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

RE: COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.;
REGISTRATION - AGENT OF
FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

I have today delivered to Messrs. O'Donnell and Rett of the Criminal Division certified and exemplified copies of the following:

Certificate of Incorporation of the P-A Printing Corporation;

Certificate of Incorporation of the S.R.T. Publications, Incorporated;

Certificate of Incorporation of the Beck Union, Incorporated;

Certificate of Incorporation of the Weekly Masses Company, Incorporated;

Certificate of Incorporation of the Progressive Book Shop, Incorporated;

Certificate of Incorporation of the P & D Printing Company, Incorporated;

Certificate of Incorporation of the Morning Freedom Publishing Company, Incorporated;

Certificate of Incorporation of the World Tourists, Incorporated;

Certificate of Incorporation of the Intourist, Incorporated;

Certificate of Consolidation forming Amtorg Trading Corporation.

Photostatic copies of the above documents have been prepared for the Bureau's files.

K. R. McIntire.

ORIGINAL FILED IN 61-7590-43

KRM: CJ
61-3881

January 18, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL ROGGE

RE: ANTORO TRADING CORPORATION

For the attention of Messrs. Henry O'Donnell and
Floyd Rett, I am transmitting herewith one photostatic copy
of

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

61-5381-76
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 20 1940

(copies retained in Bu file) U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. McFadden	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tour Room
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Call 6-15 P
memorandum for H R M
Am n
PK

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
January 22, 1940.


Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith a photo-
static copy of [redacted]
[redacted] this information having been furnished to this
office by confidential informant [redacted] A copy of the
list has also been furnished to Commander D. B. Downer,
Director of the Office of Naval Intelligence, New York City.
This [redacted]

Very truly yours,


P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

b7D

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
January 22, 1940.

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

Dear Sir:

There is attached hereto one photo-
static copy of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] which information was furnished to this office
by confidential informant [REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

b7D

607 U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, N. Y.

January 22, 1940.

Commander D. B. Downer
Director of Office of Naval Intelligence
Federal Office Building
90 Church Street
New York, N. Y.

RE: AMTORG TRADING CORP.

My dear Commander Downer:

There is attached hereto a
photostatic copy of

--

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure
P.E.F.
cc-Bureau

RECORDED

1-5337	
FEDERAL	INVESTIGATION
4	JAN 24 1940
U.S.	DEPT. OF JUSTICE
ONE	

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KRM:CJ
61-5381-89
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February 3, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL HOGGE

RE: ANTONIO TRADING CORPORATION

I am transmitting herewith one photostatic copy
of [REDACTED]

There is also attached a photostatic copy of
[REDACTED] together
with a photostatic copy of [REDACTED]

You are also being furnished with a photostatic
copy of the [REDACTED]

This material is for the assistance of Messrs.
Floyd Nett and Henry O'Donnell of your Division.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

★ FEB 3 1940 ★

P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

PEF:MT

New York, N. Y.
January 24, 1940.

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (U)

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: ⁰AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith a photo-
static copy of [redacted]

[redacted] This
was furnished to this office by confidential informant [redacted]
[redacted] and a copy has been furnished to Commander D. B.
Downer of ONI, New York City.

There is also attached a photostatic copy
of [redacted]
[redacted] this information also having been
furnished by confidential informant [redacted]
[redacted]

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosures.

RECORDED

11-3-80
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 JAN 26 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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~~COPY~~ - esk

January 12, 1940

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Information has been received to the effect that W. M. Kalinin, President of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, directed a letter to the Waterbury Button Company, Waterbury, Connecticut, to obtain authority for two of their engineers, Messrs. G. N. Molodtsov and A. A. Zacharov to visit their plant. This invitation apparently was refused, in view of the fact that the Waterbury Button Company was working on a Government contract and the officials of the concern viewed this request with some suspicion.

I have also been informed that the Minneapolis Honeywell Regulator Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota, received a similar letter from the Glavestrom Commission of the U.S.S.R., 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City, relative to two of their engineers by the names of Malosov and Zacharov, who are apparently identical with the two engineers named by the Amtorg Corporation, although there appears to be a difference in spelling.

I am furnishing the above to you as a matter of information and would appreciate being advised whether you have a record of these two engineers being in any way officially connected with the Soviet Government, in order that our records may be complete. I would also like to be advised whether the Amtorg Corporation or the Glavestrom Commission is registered with the State Department in accordance with the Act providing for the registration of Agents of foreign principals.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JFP:ESK
61-5381-84

February 14, 1940

RECORDED

Rear Admiral Walter S. Anderson
Director, Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

My dear Admiral:

I am transmitting herewith for your information
copies of a letter dated January 12, 1940, from this Bureau
to the State Department and copies of the reply of the
State Department thereto dated January 24, 1940.

Copies of the above letters, which are self-
explanatory, are also being furnished to the Office of
Military Intelligence.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

FEB 14 1940

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 65-8375-2

RECORDED

JFP:ESK
61-5381-84
~~65-8375-2~~

February 14, 1940

Colonel E. R. Warner McCabe
Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel McCabe:

I am transmitting herewith for your information copies of a letter dated January 12, 1940, from this Bureau to the State Department and copies of the reply of the State Department thereto dated January 24, 1940.

Copies of the above letters, which are self-explanatory, are also being furnished to the Office of Naval Intelligence.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

MAILED
FEB 14 1940

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 65-8375-2

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U. S. A.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

The Honorable

The Attorney General,

Washington, D. C.

111 U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, N. Y.

65094

January 1

Commander D. B. Downer
Office of Naval Intelligence
Federal Office Building
90 Church Street
New York, N. Y.

RE: AMTORG TRAL.

My dear Commanders:

There is enclosed herewith a
photostatic copy of [redacted]

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosure.
P. E. F. M. T.
cc-Bureau

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

